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[From Harpers Weekly.]

TWO TRAVELERS.

I.

A man passed over the road
In the early day of Spring,
When the grandest flower that ever bloomed
Was brightly blossoming.

And never a word he spoke,
And his face was marble cold,
But millions of men above him wept,
And millions of bells were tolled.

And the cities were draped in black,
And the towns were wrapped in gloom,
"For he is dead," the people said
"Who made the flower to bloom."

Down many a swarthy face
Unmanhearted tear-drops flowed.
"For he is gone," the boatman spoke—
"Who lifted our many load."

And they builded him a tomb
After in the Silent West,
And that man's country flower that men call Peace
Spread its leaves above his breast.

II.

A man passed over the road
Ere the rain nor dew were dead
And the eaves of the flower that bloomed in Spring
Its trampled with human tread.

And many a word he spoke
And his arrogant face was flushed;
And laughed aloud with the noisy crowd
When the leaves of the flower were crushed.

But down many a swarthy face
Flowed tears," it cried pain
"For he is gone"—the boatman spoke—
"O forget our chain's again."

He must seek the tomb some time
After in the silent west
But we'll wait the flower which men call Peace
Spread its leaves above his breast."

WINTER'S HARVEST.

Pure and blue is the broad, broad sky—
Cold and hard as a sapphire stone;
The flowers are all of them iron and black,
And we see no bird alone.
Now summer's rich
Is simply spoil,
And the leaves are gathering in.

The poplar's turned to a pillar of gold:
The elder's crimson an dead;
The beech is brazen and growing
The sycamore's rusty red.
The grey "goose"
The year fades out:
And the leaves are gathering in

In the cold and peaceful sunshine
Tie dead leaves fill the lakes,
Floating, flaking, drifting,
Like golden butterflies.
For summer's toil
Is winter's spoil,
Time's harvest is gathering in.

—*Chambers's Journal.*

ADVENTURES OF A RIVER MAN.

Singular and Exciting Career.

Life of Captain Prescott Devol.

The Rev. S. P. Hildreth, of Dresden, Ohi , furnishes the Marietta *Register* with a sketch of the life of the late Captain Prescott Hildreth Devol, a man well known to many of our readers. We make the following extract of Mr. Hildreth's very entertaining narative :

HIS EARLY YEARS.

Prescott Hildreth Devol (so named by his father, from his intimate friend, Dr. S. P. Hildreth, of Marietta,) was born in the month of March, A. D. 1822. In his boyhood he was distinguished by a fondness for athletic sports, in which he early displayed a skill and strength superior to his youthful companions. He was especially addicted in the use of the bow and arrow, shooting squirrels in the tallest tree tops, and sometimes bringing down twenty or thirty birds in a single morning.

When about twelve years of age, he was sent to school in Marietta, where he studied for several years. During the period, he was deeply affected in a revival of religion.

He did not unite with the church, but the influence of those early religious impressions may clearly be seen in the uprightness and consistency of purity of his life, when mingling, as he did in after years, with reckless and dissipated mates.

As years passed, and the vigor of youthful manhood became developed, he manifested a buoyancy and exuberance of spirits which gave him an undisputed leadership among his comrades. After having Marietta, he became for a time a student in the Ohio University located at Athens. As to his proficiency in scholastic lore, I cannot speak definitely ; when the hours for amusement came, the citizens of the town could distinguish the return of Pres. Devol from his home on the Big Hocking, by the laughter and unusual uproar on the college grounds.

In addition to physical strength, he possessed unusual vocal powers.

HIS SERVICES IN THE MEXICAN CAMPAIGN.

In the fall of the year 1840, a flat boat loaded with hoop poles and staves was placed under his charge to be taken to Cincinnati. He was then about eighteen years of age. The boat floated slowly with the current, stopping at several towns on the way for the purpose of trading, and in due time arrived at Cincinnati. It was in the very height of Harrison's Presidential campaign, and log cabins, and log cabins, and mammoth ball rollings through the West, were stirring the people into a whirlwind of excitement. Here the peculiar powers of young Devol were appreciated as they never had been before. He could sing a Whig song in ringing tones that were heard a mile off; and his stentorian voice seemed never to get weary. Politicians and prominent gentlemen of Cincinnati at once laid hold of such a prize, and feasted him at their best hotels. He sang at mass meetings in the open air. From some neighboring platform, near Democratic meeting, he sang triumphant Whig songs in a voice that drowned the roar of their loudest stump speakers. Seated in a chair, on a sort of triumphal car, and borne on the shoulders of eight men, he was carried singing through the streets, followed by crowds that blocked up the way as far as the eye could see. How he infuriated Duncan, the democratic candidate for Congress! Passing, in a march of this kind, beneath his windows, he sang, in a voice loud enough to make the glass quiver, a song he had composed expressly for the occasion, and in which were personal witticism sthat called forth shouts of laughter from the outside hearers. One night, when attending the theater, the audience, discovering his presence, stopped the play, and yelled out, "Big Hocking! Big Hocking! Big Hocking !" until they forced him to give them a song. During the campaign he visited St. Louis, the papers describing the prodigious excitement produced by his singing, while being drawn upon a log cabin on wheels, and followed by an admiring crowd through the public streets. Before returning home he went again to St. Louis, and also to New Orleans.

HIS CAREER AS A RIVER MAN.

Through the influence of friendships formed during the political campaign already described, Pres. was made an officer on one of the steamboats plying upon the Ohio river. In this employment he continued until the breaking out of the Mexican war. On the 4th of July, 1846, he passed his home on his way to New Orleans, having taken service on the United States steamer Corvette, one of the transport vessels engaged in the carrying troops and munitions of war for the army commanded by General Taylor.

He went as far west as the Rio Grande, navigating that stream in the Government service, having many interesting and perilous adventures with the Mexicans on the western bank of the river, and among many other things learning from them the use of the lariat.

Returning home in the fall of 1846, he was married in December to a second cousin, Sarah, the daughter of Gilbert Devol, Esq., of Dansville, Ohio. Not long afterward he was appointed Captain on one of the finest packet boats running between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. One of these line boats went up, and another down the river every day; but it was customary for the passengers to wait several days for the steamer commanded by Captain Pres. Devol.

At this time he was about twenty-five years old. He was six feet high, and weighed about one hundred and ninety pounds, portly, but not corpulent, well built, erect in his gait, and of commanding presence. He was always dressed in excellent taste, and his gentlemanly, fine looking figure attracted the eye anywhere in a crowd. His features were of the Roman cast, and his voice, though powerful, was agreeable in its tones. Captain Devol was pronounced by the men the most popular companion, and by the ladies the handsomest man upon the river.

Take the following instance as illustrating his character at this period. One night at Pittsburgh, Pres. went to the Theater. A man had left his seat for a short time and gone out. Pres. coming in took the vacant place. Presently the man returned, a coarse, ruffianly fellow, and said to him: "Get out of that, you are in my seat." Pres. looked at him a moment with his great black eyes, and said: "If you had asked me for it in a gentlemanly manner, you should have your seat; but now I shall keep it. Help yourself if you can." The man went to call the police, and returning with an officer, stated his grievance. Pres. told the policeman that if the seat had been asked for in a proper manner, he would give it up, but now he intended to keep it. The policeman talked quietly a short time, but told Pres. he must give up his seat, or he would call his comrades and put him out of the Theater. Thereupon Pres. blew his boatswain's whistle, and called out, "All the boys in the Theater that belong to Clipper No. 2, come HERE!" Forthwith a dozen stalwart fellows came tumbling toward him, fierce for a fight. "Now," said Pres. to the police, "if you want a mess, you can have it, and you will clean out the Theater. Or, if you choose to be quiet very well; but I am going to keep my seat." The police withdrew, and Pres, said to the actors, who had suspended the performance, "Now you may go on with your play."

Through the next eight or ten years, Pres. continued as an officer upon steamboats, a part of the time on the Ohio river, and a part of the time in the Southern trade, on the Mississippi, and as far down waard as Mobile.

Innumerable adventures occurred during this portion of his life. Take a few as samples. A feeling of bitter rivalry existed between the cities of Pittsburgh and Wheeling. Pres. sided with Pittsburgh. A magnificent wire suspension bridge, among the first in America, had been built at Wheeling across the Ohio river. Suits at law against the bridge were instigated by the citizens of Pittsburgh, and immense sums of money were expended. While the contest was at its height, Pres, steamed under the bridge one day, with very tall chimneys erected on his boat, that were said to be eighty feet in height. The Ohio was flooding its banks, and the gigantic chimneys, of course, were knocked flat upon the deck, thus furnishing the citizens of Pittsburgh with a coveted opportunity of demanding the removal of the bridge, as obstructing the navigation of the Ohio. The citizens of Wheeling were stirred into a whirlwind of excitement as they witnessed the race, and threatened to stone Captain Devol's boat on its tall ward passage. But no serious results, either at the law or from the mob, followed this huge, practical joke.

In these days, fleets of coal barges, lashed together by twos and threes, floated to Cincinnati. The returning crews, flushed with money, were often riotous. The butcher-knife, worn at the waist in its leather sheath, and employed to cut bread and meat, was often drawn in quarrels, and sometimes used with deadly effect. On one occasion, when in a sudden quarrel, several were wounded and one man was killed. Pres. put the rioters in iron, and returning to Cincinnati, committed them to jail to await their trial.

Another time, a riot having broken out on the boat, Pres. ordered his mate to quell it; oaths and yells arose from the deck, knives were drawn, and in the center of the melee a gigantic Irishman was flourishing his fists in the wind mill style, and knocking down his enemies like ninepins. The mate was afraid. Thereupon, Pres. went down among them, slinging the angry men to the right and left like children, and quelled the riot. He presented a cowhide to the Irish leader, seized him from behind by each elbow, and trotting his prisoner before him, he made a circuit of the boat, on one of the deck—said to the pilot, "Heave her in to the shore!" As the boat neared the land, Pres, gave his captive a tremendous hoist, landing him in the mud and water at the river's edge, and the boat moved back into the channel, leaving an infuriated Irishman stamping and yelling on the river bank, far away from any human habitation.

In later years, on his way to New Orleans, a blackleg committed a misdemeanor, and Pres. promptly put him on shore in the wilderness. The enraged man went to a neighboring town and waited for the upward passage of the boat. In due time it came. When it landed, Pres, went up to an office in the town for the transaction of business. Finding there a friend came into the room, and, after warning Pres. that his enemy and two companions, with pistols and rifles, had struck, and were waiting for him outside, asked :

"Captain Devol, are you armed ?"

"No."

"Then take my pistol."

"Thank you," said Pres., clinching his fists, "I want no weapons but those which nature gave me."

He left the office, and there, between him and the river, stood the ruffians, armed to the teeth. But the fist was quicker than the pistol. Before they could draw their weapons Pres. was upon them. The first man fell like an ox under the butcher's ax; a crashing blow sent down the second, and a terrific jab in the third in a moment after, the third went spinning against a fence with such force that his head made a dent in the board where it struck, and Pres. was striding down to his steamboat.

HE GOES TO THE PACIFIC.

During the excitement which followed the discovery of gold in California he visited that region, making a sea voyage for the purpose. In the course of the voyage a storm came up : the vessel struck upon a rock and sprung a leak. A sailor who was sent below to see how much water was in the hold, accidentally dropped the end of cotton with his candle. Instantly it leaped into a blaze, and he ran on deck crying out, "Fire!" Pres. saw that the ascending flame and smoke filling all the hold, confirmed the wild cry. The Captain lost his presence of mind, and gave contradictory orders. Pres. took the position, and all on board were giving themselves up as lost. In this terrible emergency, Pres. said to the Captain, "Give me command of the vessel, and I will save the ship besides." The Captain came forward and directed the sailors to obey the commands of Captain Devol. He ordered the hatches to be battened down, to shut steam into the blazing hold until the fire was extinguished, set the terrified sailors to work at the pumps, and saved the vessel in the last extremity. It could were a number of wealthy men. Full of grateful admiration toward Captain Devol for his preservation of their lives, they gave him a shower on shipboard, and presented him with a gold watch, and a purse of four hundred dollars. On reaching San Francisco, they invited him to the society of San Francisco, gave suppers and dinner parties in his honor, and exered themselves to the utmost in rendering his visit among them agreeable. Finally, he left here and there over the country, and spent a short time in examining the gold diggings, but on the whole did not like the society generally of California.

Therefore he passed on to the Sandwich Islands, from thence to China, and from thence to Siam. Soon afterward his friends heard that the King of Siam had presented to him two white elephants as a mark of the royal favor, and the papers of this country announced that he was holding the office of Admiral in the Siamese navy, and was engaged in the work of capturing pirates in the Gulf of Siam.

ENTERS THE SIAMESE SERVICE.

In a letter written to his sister from Siam in 1857, after describing his adventures in China, and as a Captain of a Peruvian vessel sent to cruise after pirates, he says he went to Bangkok, where the two Kings of Siam gave him command of a brig sent out to put a check to piratical depredations. He then continues :

So I was duly installed and ensconced and installed a full post captain in the navy of the two Kings of Siam to catch pirates.

Well, I got under weigh for the Gulf, with one hundred and twenty-five sailors and marines, and two Coons. These Coons are Siamese officials of the Kings, sent along to see what you do. Bangkok is situated about thirty miles from the Gulf of Siam, on a river called the Menam; probably three thousand people living in floating houses. The population of Bangkok is estimated at about one hundred and seventy thousand Siamese, Birmese, Mons, Laas, Mussulmen, &c. Well, I passed into the Gulf, and cruised four days, and left in behind an island, found two suspicious looking crafts. I made sail for them, the brave Coons looked rather blue, I, then ordered the helm a-port, ordered also to

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1867.

TURNING THE CORNER BACKWARD.

It turns out that we were right in conjecturing that the next monthly statement would show the National debt increased. The increase will be small, it is true—something like four or five million, it is said—but the reversal of the wheel from diminution to increase knocks away the foundation of Mr. McCULLOCH's felicitationless than three months ago, when, in triumph he pointed to the fact that at the rate we were then going on the debt would be paid off in something like a dozen years. At the present rate, what will be the period of liquidation? At the present rate, Congress will soon be called upon to contemplate the dreary necessity of supplying a growing deficiency, instead of the cheerful task of devising the best method of using a swelling surplus.

The simple truth is, the business of the country is measurably suspended. Values have shrunken and industry is unemployed. As a consequence, the flow into the Treasury has dwindled, so that the debt has begun to grow again. It is true the Secretary was told that such would be the result, but he did not believe it. But it is probable that he now perceives his error and is ready to correct it, so far as he can.

Nor is it to the Secretary alone that the country looks in this emergency. Congress has a duty to perform. If it will pass into a law the tariff bill that has just been sent from the Senate to the House, the act will go far to discharge the obligation Congress is under to the country. Give us that, and let the policy of contraction cease—at least, let us know that it will be confined to the four million per month—and business will revive.

There are less than twenty days left of the present session. We sincerely trust it will not close without the present Tariff bill—or one as nearly like it as possible—becoming a law. It is understood that the Secretary of the Treasury is potent on the question. Will he secure the gratitude of the nation by using all his influence in its favor?

EXPULSION OF PROTESTANTISM FROM ROME.

We publish in another column an authentic statement of the expulsion of Protestant worship from Rome. Considering that in the United States the largest religious liberty is not only permitted, but absolutely secured, this act of intolerance—aimed in a special manner at this country—will awaken here a strong sentiment of reprobation, with which, we are ready to believe, not a few Roman Catholics will secretly if not openly sympathise. And still, when we consider the religion of that Church, by which we mean the character it arrogates to itself, we cannot see how the Pope could do less than expel Protestantism from Rome, or wherever else he has the power to do it. Protestantism, according to Roman Catholic understanding, is heretical and essentially erroneous; consequently to be suppressed. And if the Pope, having the power, should fail to exercise it to this extent, how could believers be expected to hold to their faith, or the Church, of which he is the head, be encouraged in the struggle for supremacy?

The Pope, therefore, in expelling Protestantism from Rome, has but expounded the doctrine of the Church—or so much of it as holds that whatever proceeds not from and is not obedient to it is heretical, and, if possible, to be put down. It was a consistent act, not of the Pope either as an ecclesiastical or civil ruler, but of the Church of Rome, which aims at supremacy everywhere.

It is in this light the act of expulsion should be viewed. And if we are correct in this—if it is not a hostile act of the Pope, but one that proceeds from an inherent necessity—then its repetition is to be expected whenever and wherever the power exists—and when and where it does not exist, the spirit of the act, so far as possible, will be infused into all the doings and relations of the Church. If this act of the Pope is right and strictly in accordance with the doctrine of the Church of Rome, it would be equally so wherever the same power existed. If this is not the right view, then the act proceeds from hostility to this country, is an arbitrary one, and as such should be resented. Although we hold strictly to religious freedom, yet we subscribe to no such solecism as toleration for that which is intolerant to everything else. Nevertheless, we have so much faith in toleration—in its working in our own country—which would be the same in Rome itself, that we cannot see how no appreciation that the principles put in practice by the Pope in this instance will result in any serious injury to religious freedom in this country.

A NEW RESIDENTIAL PLAN.

By our special correspondence from Washington we learn that the President has had in consultation with him, on a plan of reconstruction, an influential number of Governors of the Northern States in advance of the Governors of the Southern States. If we do not now get a plan of reconstruction, that shall have the cardinal merit of being "acceptable to the South," it will be a wonder. And if any one is despondent on this point, let him cheer up, for that famous patriot HOWELL COBB, of Georgia, has been sent for, to add his wisdom and disinterested statesmanship to the deliberations on the subject of reconstruction. And let it be remembered further, as a support of hope, that there is a large reserve still to draw from, if those at immediate hand of the President are insufficient. It will, we repeat, be a wonder if they do not conceive and bring forth something that will be acceptable to the South.

And then, when these judicious and impartial counsellors have got into shape a grand reconstruction policy, to be promulgated in the President's opening message to the new Congress, and there is not a thing in it that is not "acceptable to the South," just as likely as not, trouble will spring up from the inquiry, whether it is acceptable to the *loyal people* of the country. This is a matter of some consequence one would think. Or, is persistent impudence really going to insist on a plan of reconstruction *from* which is eliminated everything that could offend the most sensitive and most Southern mind? After maintaining the high ground that became the Government in subduing the rebellion, after refusing to listen to any terms but unconditional submission, after having presented fair and honorable terms of reconciliation and reconstruction, after those terms have been spurned with indignity, it seems to be humiliating and offensive to call leading insurgents into counsel, to dictate, as it were, new terms to the United States. This is the light in which this convocation of Southern politicians in aid of the President's projects strikes our mind, and the demonstration is complete by the invitation of HOWELL COBB to the conclave.

THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

If any one supposes that we undervalue railroads in general or the Pennsylvania Central in particular, we cannot give him much credit for discernment, nor for skill in forming deductions from facts. Yet the *Post* seems to have run, or been led, into this error on one point, by a very narrow and onesided view of our course in favor of the Connellsville Railroad.

While we freely accord all the credit due to the Central Railroad, for the excellence of its work and the energy of its administration, and for the benefit it has done and is doing to the business of the State and of its two great cities; while we rejoice in seeing it crowded with business and extending its facilities; and while we have not a feeling or an interest in antagonism to that corporation, yet there are some prerogatives which we cannot, as the conductors of a public journal, allow to be put in abeyance by our regards for the Central Road.

It is evident to our own observation, with which information from business men accords, that from this point eastward we have not means of transportation adequate to our necessities. It is evident, too, that were our means extended, under the usual influence, even among railroads, of healthful competition, the transit business through the State, both of travel and freight, would be greatly increased. Among the railroad facilities now seeking public favor is the Connellsville route. After many difficulties, embracing a history that many a person blushes to remember, this corporation is again seeking legal authorization from our Legislature. We are in favor of its success, simply as a matter of public benefit to the State. If another independent corporation were wishing to construct another independent road, we should be, for the same reason, in favor of that too.

And what we object to, in the Central Road, is its opposition, such as it is alleged to be, in the Legislature to this public improvement demanded by the business of the country and by the interests of the State. The article in the *Post* pleads for its course as being a State institution, and for the benefit of the State. We repudiate the narrow notion, that has gained more fame than it deserves in New Jersey, but even on that ground, its course cannot be justified, for freight and travel will go North of us and South of us, to the loss of the business of the State, unless we have greater and independent facilities for transportation. On this State plea we say nothing—though we might—of discriminations to the disadvantage of our business men.

We simply want ample accommodations, under the best conditions, for the present and increasing business of the country. We want a fair share of the business of transportation to be done in this State, through this city. And to this end we want the Legislature, that will authorize competing roads, as many as the capital of the country chooses to make in our Commonwealth. We believe that they would go towards improving and enriching the State. Therefore we are, without the slightest unfriendliness to any existing railroad, in favor of a general railroad law.

DEAD OR ASLEEP?

A cotemporary whose sentiments indicate its locality as clearly as would the name of the city in which it is issued, laments, while it concedes, the downfall of the State Sovereignty doctrine. It consoles itself, however, with the belief that this doctrine is only under a cloud that will pass away, or, in other words, that it is not dead but only asleep. By an extraordinary method of classifying ideas, the State Sovereignty doctrine which led to secession, is reckoned a conservative power, while the loyal sentiment which opposed it, is declared to be a revolutionary, or innovating power. It is under this classification that the Republican party and the Congress of the United States are pronounced revolutionary, by those whose attempt at violent revolution has just been put down.

It is admitted by the journal referred to, that the doctrine of State Sovereignty led to secession, and that in the war consequent on secession, the Southern people were beaten. Their appeal to the sword failed, and their logic in favor of State Sovereignty was, therefore, exhausted, and the doctrine fell prostrate. We have often noticed how persons when hard up for comfort in their present condition, or for credit in view of their real character, draw their checks on history. The *Enquirer* avails itself of this exception, with reference to the doctrine of State Sovereignty, which it compares, by allusion to a familiar fable, to a "sleeping beauty." "Ideas," it says, "are irrepressible. There is no weapon that can spill the life blood of an idea." "The souls of great principles are immortal." "The idea of State Sovereignty may sleep for a hundred years, but it will not be the slumber of decay. Some future generation will become enamored of its loveliness."

This, with all its hackneyed phrases of transcendentalism, is silly talk. Sir HUDIBRAS's fame in an argument rested on his admitted capacity for discrimination:

"He could distinguish and divide
A hair 'twixt south and southwest side"

but he never undertook so great a feat as that of the Richmond *Enquirer*—to make people believe that the rebellion sprung from a conservative idea, and that the loyal sentiment which withstood and turned back its destructive current was a revolutionary one. Alike silly is its talk about the comparative value of the influence of those antagonistic "ideas," in reply to which it were sufficient to point to Virginia as a sample of what the basted conservatism of the South would have been before the war—and to Ohio as an illustration of the honors connected with the "innovation" idea.

It did not strike the mind of our cotemporary in his historic aspirations over his sleeping idea of State Sovereignty that the *Union idea is as likely to keep awake*, as his "sleeping beauty" is to wake up after a Rip Van Winkle slumber of a hundred years. And if the loyal sentiment should be allowed to doze as it formerly did under the soporific administration of the Democracy, a little renewal of the Sumter noise will wake it up as thoroughly as in 1861. We think we see the cherished "idea" of State Sovereignty waking up, looking cautiously around, afraid, like FALSTAFF on the battle field, that others might have been "counterfeiting" death as well as itself, and especially startled at the thought, that this HOTSPUR Unionism, might spring upon it as in days of old. Our opinion of the condition of the State Sovereignty idea, at present time, is that it is dead, and our advice to its mourning friends is, to give it speedy burial out of sight.

CONTRACTING CONTRACTION.

In adopting the resolution that contraction of the currency should be limited to compound interest notes—which would be but nominal—the House of Representatives rather put its foot down, as Mr. LINCOLN was in the habit of expressing himself. This evidently shows the Representatives of the people have put the proper interpretation on the present condition of the country, and ascribed it to the right cause, even if the Secretary of the Treasury has not. As the direct and necessary consequence of his policy of contraction—more especially the wide spread fear that has been created by it—we have, within the last three months, had several financial spasms; and to day the industrial and producing interests of the country are much prostrated and beclouded; values are considerably depressed, and the embarrassment so much diminished that in all probability the forthcoming exhibit of the national debt will show the reversal of previous ones, inasmuch as the debt will be shown to have increased and not diminished. One would suppose that these hard facts ought to be sufficient whereby to judge of the wisdom or folly of the Secretary's policy. In theory it may be well enough—but here we have it in severe practice—and certainly it is bad and must lead to worse if not stopped.

And we have some confidence that stopped it will be. The action of the House of Representatives should be an admonition to the Financial Secretary, who cannot be ignorant of the universal anxiety pervading business and financial circles. Let the policy be at once given up and the business of the country will speedily grow so that, by an upward process, the relations of business and currency will become practically what the Secretary would bring about by a downward process. And something like this, it gives us pleasure to note, is at least possible; for if we are not misinformed, Secretary McCULLOCH does perceive that his revenues are falling off; and he can find no other reason than the paralyzing of the business of the country by actual and apprehended contraction.

With a reversal of the financial policy, and the passage of a Tariff Law with any thing like a judicious scale of rates of duty, the country would at once leap into activity again.

THE NEED OF GREATER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

Strenuous exertions are made, it is said, for securing such legislation by Congress as may be necessary to the construction of a ship canal round the Falls of Niagara. This is no new project. It has long been urged by some as a means of facilitating the transportation of produce eastward through the Lakes to the sea. It has been urged, also, as a national measure for connecting the internal seas in one line of defense and co-operation in case of war with England. It is pressed on both grounds at the present time, and with more directness and determination than ever before. It is therefore a matter in which all parts of the country have an interest. As the expense of the undertaking, according to present intentions, is to be met by the national treasury, it is pertinent for the people of all parts of the country to consider whether the work promises such results to the general good as to warrant the expenditure.

For military purposes such a canal is not necessary, even in case of a war. The former contest between the two countries is no type of what we would be now. Neither were such a canal in existence on our bank of the river, would it be available in the face of modern artillery on the opposite bank. All the argument addressed to the National Government on this ground may therefore be set aside as without force.

It is undoubtedly true that more free commerication is demanded by the growing commerce between the East and the West. And it is equally true that the great advantage, in point of cheapness of transportation, that the extensive lake commerce has, causes a disproportionate share of its freight from the broad West to take that direction. This overcrowds the means of transportation, where the lake communications end. The great railways through New York and the canal are found insufficient, although the canal, during the season of navigation, carries freight equal to the astonishing amount of *sixty railway trains* per day. This condition of affairs is highly embarrassing to the great producing regions of the West and Northwest. And we cannot blame them for impatience under it. When they find their agriculture languishing, and their enterprise crippled by impediments in their road to market, we are not surprised that they devise the removal of the hindrances.

But other sections too have an interest in the matter. And the difficulty that impedes or clogs transportation in the North, should make our own section more prompt and decided to furnish facilities here for the transit of freights. Our rivers afford scarcely less advantageous means of transportation from the West to this point, than the Lakes furnish to Buffalo. And business would flow largely in this channel, if it had no difficulty to apprehend at this point. But eastward, hence, there is but one road, a most excellent one, employed to its full extent, while in Western New York the accumulating business has two roads and a canal of large capacity, and yet the entire West complains of scanty and costly transportation, and wants a canal round the Falls, in order to give them Lake transportation a hundred and fifty miles further, or even to the sea. Our policy should be to give every facility to Eastward communications from this point, as well as to improve our rivers.

THE SOUTHERN PLAN.

It was perfectly consistent in President JOHNSON to confer with those lately in rebellion against the Government as to their future position. It was consistent, because, in having forsaken those which triumphed when the rebellion went down, the next thing for him to do, if he could, was to take from the victors the right of having the most to say in the settlement, and confer on the vanquished the dictation of the terms of their future relations. This is what, so far as he could do it, Mr. JOHNSON has done. He sent out to Southern leaders an invitation to come to Washington to confer together and with him. The result of the conference we have seen. Though we have printed it once we give it again as the following amendment to the Constitution:

"Whereas, it has been announced by speakers in high authority, that propositions from the Southern States having in view the adjustment of existing political questions, will be received and considered, &c., &c.; therefore,

Resolved, &c., that the Congress of the United States be requested to propose to the Legislatures of the several States the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States:

"Article —. That no part of the Constitution, has a right of its own will to renounce its place in, or to withdraw from the Union; nor has it the right to secede, or the right to eject a State from the Union, or to deprive it of the equal suffrage in the Senate, or of representation in the House of Representatives of the Union, under the Constitution, shall be held valid.

"SEC. 2. The public debt of the United States, authorized by law, shall ever be held sacred and inviolable, but neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or authority of the United States.

"SEC. 3. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State in which they reside; and the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States. The Congress shall have power to secure to persons in every State within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

"SEC. 4. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But whenever, in any State, the elective franchise, or the exercise of the elective franchise, shall be denied or abridged by any officer of such State, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation in such State shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of persons to whom such franchise is denied or abridged shall bear to the whole number of persons in such State.

"SEC. 5. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President of the United States, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

"SEC. 6. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

"SEC. 7. The public debt of the United States shall be paid in coin or its equivalent. And all bonds issued by the United States, or by any State, which may be converted into money, the principal and interest whereof is not expressly payable in coin, shall be taxed sufficiently to pay the principal and interest in coin, unless the same shall have been paid before the first day of January, 1870.

"SEC. 8. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended except when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

"SEC. 9. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, as ascertained by the enumeration required by the Constitution, counting in each State the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed, and including persons of African descent in the same manner as persons of European descent are included. But whenever the elective franchise, or the exercise of the elective franchise, is denied or abridged in any State on account of race or color, or previous condition of servitude, any of the exercise of the elective franchise shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of persons of such race or color, or previous condition of servitude, may bear to the whole number of persons in such State.

"SEC. 10. No person shall be elected President and Vice President of the United States, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who has previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and has engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

"SEC. 11. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"ARTICLE —. Every male citizen who has resided in this State for one year and in the county where he offers to vote six months immediately preceding the day of election, and can read the Constitution of the United States in the English language and write his name, may vote at all elections authorized by law, and shall enjoy the right of suffrage equally with all other citizens of the United States in the election of all officers elective by the people, and in the location of all public institutions and works of internal improvement; and no law shall be passed by the Legislature of this State, or any municipal authority, depriving any citizen of the United States of the right of suffrage, who has the qualifications herein prescribed, nor shall any citizen be disfranchised for the non-payment of taxes, unless he shall refuse or neglect to pay the same after the same shall have been assessed and demanded of him according to law.

"ARTICLE —. Every male citizen who has resided in this State for one year and in the county where he offers to vote six months immediately preceding the day of election, and can read the Constitution of the United States in the English language and write his name, or who is the owner of $250 of taxable property, and has been assessed at that amount, shall be entitled to vote at all elections for Governor and other officers of the Executive Department of this State, and on the adoption of this amendment may be entitled to vote under said Constitution as laws."

Now, therefore, in view of the above considerations, and in the sincere desire to see the earliest and fairest restoration of the Union,

Resolved, That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of said Constitution:

"ARTICLE —SEC. 1. The Union under the Constitution shall be perpetual.

"SEC. 2. The public debt of the United States authorized by law shall ever be held sacred and inviolable, but neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States.

"SEC. 3. All persons born in or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States and of the State in which they reside, and citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States. No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

"SEC. 4. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed, but whenever, in any State, the elective franchise shall be denied to any portion of the male inhabitants of such State, being citizens of the United States, who have attained the age of twenty-one years, and the right to vote in any election by any such citizens for electors for President and Vice President of the United States, representatives in Congress, members of the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is in any manner abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation in such State shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens of the age aforesaid in such State.

"SEC. 5. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President of the United States, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

"SEC. 6. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

"SEC. 7. The public debt of the United States shall be paid in coin or its equivalent. And all bonds issued by the United States, or by any State, which may be converted into money, the principal and interest whereof is not expressly payable in coin, shall be taxed sufficiently to pay the principal and interest in coin, unless the same shall have been paid before the first day of January, 1870.

"SEC. 8. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended except when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

"SEC. 9. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, as ascertained by the enumeration required by the Constitution, counting in each State the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed, and including persons of African descent in the same manner as persons of European descent are included. But whenever the elective franchise, or the exercise of the elective franchise, is denied or abridged in any State on account of race or color, or previous condition of servitude, any of the exercise of the elective franchise shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of persons to whom such franchise is denied or abridged shall bear to the whole number of persons in such State.

"SEC. 10. No person shall be elected President and Vice President of the United States, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who has previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and has engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

"SEC. 11. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"ARTICLE —. Every male citizen who has resided in this State for one year and in the county where he offers to vote six months immediately preceding the day of election, and can read the Constitution of the United States in the English language and write his name, or who is the owner of $250 of taxable property, and has been assessed at that amount, shall be entitled to vote at all elections authorized by law, and shall enjoy the right of suffrage equally with all other citizens of the United States in the election of all officers elective by the people, and in the location of all public institutions and works of internal improvement; and no law shall be passed by the Legislature of this State, or any municipal authority, depriving any citizen of the United States of the right of suffrage, who has the qualifications herein prescribed, nor shall any citizen be disfranchised for the non-payment of taxes, unless he shall refuse or neglect to pay the same after the same shall have been assessed and demanded of him according to law.

"SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in the rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals; to this end he may organize and employ the entire military force of the State under his command, and may appoint such number of subordinate officers as he may think necessary for the performance of his duty. Such officers shall be entitled to the same pay and allowances as officers of like grade in the regular army, and shall be commissioned by the Governor of the State.

"SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in the rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals, and to this end he may call in the aid of the civil authorities, or may himself directly assume the powers and duties of such officers, when in his judgment it may be necessary the same should be done, and he shall have power to remove from office for cause, to be entered on record, any civil officer whose functions he assumes to perform, and to appoint others in their stead. The term for which such officers may be appointed shall not exceed the period of military occupation hereby created, nor shall any appointment of such officers, made previous to the final restoration of the State to the Union, be valid after the first session of the Legislature thereof, unless such appointments shall be approved by the Legislature.

"SEC. 4. That it shall be the duty of the General of the army to assign to the command of each of said districts an officer of the regular army not below the rank of brigadier general, to detail a sufficient military force to enable such officer to perform his duties and enforce his authority within the district to be assigned.

"SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in the rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection and disorder, and to punish all such officers shall be appointed on the second Tuesday of November, 1867, and all vacancies shall be filled in like manner; but if any vacancy shall occur by reason of the death or resignation of any officer, the President may fill the same by appointment, to be exercised within sixty days after such death or resignation shall occur.

"SEC. 6. That all persons who may be registered or vote at any election mentioned in the fifth section of this act shall be required to take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: 'I do solemnly swear (or affirm) in the presence of Almighty God that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and will faithfully obey the laws of the United States, and will take no part directly or indirectly in any attempt to overthrow or resist the authority thereof, and that I will to the best of my knowledge and ability encourage others so to do.' And any person who shall falsely take and subscribe such oath or affirmation, shall be punished as for the crime of perjury, and shall be disfranchised and rendered incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under the United States.

"SEC. 7. That the commanding officer of the district shall appoint a board of registration, consisting of three persons, whose duty it shall be to prepare and keep in his office a register of all persons entitled to vote under the provisions of this act, and to make out and deliver to such persons certificates of such registration. Such board shall be furnished with a sufficient number of boxes, to be used at the places of voting, and shall direct the time and places of voting, and shall cause a poll list to be kept of all persons voting, and a duplicate return thereof to be made to the commanding officer of the district. The board of registration shall decide upon the sufficiency of all applications for registration, subject to such regulations as may be prescribed by the commanding officer of the district, and shall perform such other duties as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

"SEC. 8. That all persons who may be entitled to vote at any election mentioned in the fifth section of this act shall be entitled to vote at such place in the county, city or township in which they may reside, as may be designated by the commanding officer of the district, and not elsewhere.

"SEC. 9. That no person shall be voted for as a member of the Convention mentioned in the fifth section of this act, unless he shall have taken the oath prescribed in the sixth section of this act, and no person shall be entitled to sit as such member who is disqualified from holding office under the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, proposed by the Thirty-ninth Congress.

"SEC. 10. That the Convention mentioned in the fifth section of this act shall prescribe the manner in which the votes cast for the ratification or rejection of the Constitution shall be taken, and shall make return thereof to the commanding officer of the district, and the result shall be certified by him to the General of the army, who shall lay the same before the President of the United States, who shall submit the same to Congress at the commencement of its next session thereafter.

"SEC. 11. That when the Constitution framed by the Convention mentioned in the fifth section of this act shall have been adopted by a majority of the votes cast at the election provided for in the fifth section of this act, and when the same shall have been approved by the Congress of the United States, and when the Legislature elected under the provisions of said Constitution shall have adopted the amendment to the Constitution of the United States proposed by the Thirty-ninth Congress, known as article —, and when said amendment shall have become a part of the Constitution of the United States, the Legislature and the officers elective by the people, to any of the State, shall be entitled to be recognized as the Legislature and officers elective by the people of the State, and the State shall be entitled to representation in Congress as a State of the Union, and the senators and representatives thereof shall be admitted to seats in the respective Houses of Congress, but not before.

"SEC. 12. That all laws, regulations or orders, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby declared inoperative and void, and no such law, regulation or order shall have any force or effect whatever during the operation of this act or the enforcement thereof by the officers appointed to carry it into effect.

"SEC. 13. That this act shall be in force from and after its passage."

PERSONAL.

—The Westminster *Gazette*, a new Ultramontane paper, says that Dr. Newman has abandoned his design of establishing himself at Oxford, in the hope of obtaining that high mission as prelate at Rome. They do not trust him, and will not let him do anything that he is fit for. Or are they afraid that Oxford will have more influence on him, than he on Oxford?

—Jay Cooke, the banker, says a New York paper, has bought the large diamond which Kloedler recently imported, and the powerful picture by Neblig, called "After the Battle." The price paid for these pictures was five thousand dollars each. An offer of an equal amount was made for the picture of "Peace and Plenty," by Inness, but its owner, Mr. Marcus Spring, declines to part with it.

—A correspondent of the Newport, Rhode Island, *News* gives the following account of the origin of the name "Idle Wild," which he had from the lips of the former proprietor: "It was a portion of the farm of Nathaniel Sands, a lovely, kindly, gentle old man whose sweet, persuasive words from the High Seat of the Quaker meeting have won many hearts to the peaceful faith he had esp ised. He decided to sell the tract to Willis, naming some very moderate sum of money as its price, because, Nathaniel, it is only an idle wild.' 'I will take it,' said Willis, 'and it shall be called Idle Wild.'"

—The Duke of Rutland's estate in Leicestershire, England, extends over one sixteenth of the whole county, comprising 39,000 acres, let to 1,275 occupiers, mostly in farms of from 20 to 250 acres, and yielding a rental of $500,000 annum. This accumulation of land in one ownership was effected through the laws of entails and settlements, by which the division of estates among heirs is prevented.

—M. Louis Veuillot has startled Paris by a book written with great power, great coarseness, and great personality. Jenks-Nattier and Sand are more prominent people. It it very amusing, even when it outrages decency. Many of the principal personal attacks are made so transparently the victim cannot be mistaken; others are more closely veiled. A great many "keys" are in circulation to the persons designated. The author vehemently protests against all of them, declaring that where he painted an individual he birched no obscene female in his name, and where he mentions no name the character is made from traits gleaned from a dozen individuals. Twenty thousand copies of the first edition were sold four days after the book appeared; but the fifteen hundred which have been issued; it is larger than its predecessors, and more personal. The persons attacked reply with great vehemence, and M. Veuillot is particularly happy in his replies.

—The winner of the ten thousand dollar greenback prize in New York is John F. McLaughlin, about sixty years of age. He has been in the United States Government employ as a soldier for about forty years, and had to give up work in consequence of a severe attack of paralysis. Having saved sufficient from his pension to live in a humble manner, he has since been residing in Twenty-first street. When the bills of the U. H. and School drawing were being thrust into the hands of every pedestrian going along the streets, John was not forgotten, and he accordingly received as his share of the Constitution of the United States.

"And this shall be the true glory of the Constitution, has a right of its own will to renounce its place in, or to withdraw from the Union; nor has it the right to secede, or the right to eject a State from the Union, or to deprive it of the equal suffrage in the Senate, or of representation in the House of Representatives of the Union, under the Constitution, shall be held valid.

"SEC. 2. The public debt of the United States, authorized by law, shall ever be held sacred and inviolable, but neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or authority of the United States.

"SEC. 3. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State in which they reside; and the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States. The Congress shall have power to secure to persons in every State within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

"SEC. 4. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed, but whenever, in any State, the elective franchise shall be denied to any portion of the male inhabitants of such State, being citizens of the United States, who have attained the age of twenty-one years, and the right to vote in any election by any such citizens for electors for President and Vice President of the United States, representatives in Congress, members of the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is in any manner abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation in such State shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens of the age aforesaid in such State.

"SEC. 5. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President of the United States, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

"SEC. 6. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

"SEC. 7. The public debt of the United States shall be paid in coin or its equivalent. And all bonds issued by the United States, or by any State, which may be converted into money, the principal and interest whereof is not expressly payable in coin, shall be taxed sufficiently to pay the principal and interest in coin, unless the same shall have been paid before the first day of January, 1870.

"SEC. 8. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended except when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

"SEC. 9. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, as ascertained by the enumeration required by the Constitution, counting in each State the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed, and including persons of African descent in the same manner as persons of European descent are included. But whenever the elective franchise, or the exercise of the elective franchise, is denied or abridged in any State on account of race or color, or previous condition of servitude, any of the exercise of the elective franchise shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of persons to whom such franchise is denied or abridged shall bear to the whole number of persons in such State.

"SEC. 10. No person shall be elected President and Vice President of the United States, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who has previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and has engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

"SEC. 11. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"ARTICLE —. Every male citizen who has resided in this State for one year and in the county where he offers to vote six months immediately preceding the day of election, and can read the Constitution of the United States in the English language and write his name, or who is the owner of $250 of taxable property, and has been assessed at that amount, shall be entitled to vote at all elections authorized by law, and shall enjoy the right of suffrage equally with all other citizens of the United States in the election of all officers elective by the people, and in the location of all public institutions and works of internal improvement; and no law shall be passed by the Legislature of this State, or any municipal authority, depriving any citizen of the United States of the right of suffrage, who has the qualifications herein prescribed, nor shall any citizen be disfranchised for the non-payment of taxes, unless he shall refuse or neglect to pay the same after the same shall have been assessed and demanded of him according to law.

"SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in the rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals; to this end he may organize and employ the entire military force of the State under his command, and may appoint such number of subordinate officers as he may think necessary for the performance of his duty. Such officers shall be entitled to the same pay and allowances as officers of like grade in the regular army, and shall be commissioned by the Governor of the State.

"SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in the rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals, and to this end he may call in the aid of the civil authorities, or may himself directly assume the powers and duties of such officers, when in his judgment it may be necessary the same should be done, and he shall have power to remove from office for cause, to be entered on record, any civil officer whose functions he assumes to perform, and to appoint others in their stead. The term for which such officers may be appointed shall not exceed the period of military occupation hereby created, nor shall any appointment of such officers, made previous to the final restoration of the State to the Union, be valid after the first session of the Legislature thereof, unless such appointments shall be approved by the Legislature.

"SEC. 4. That it shall be the duty of the General of the army to assign to the command of each of said districts an officer of the regular army not below the rank of brigadier general, to detail a sufficient military force to enable such officer to perform his duties and enforce his authority within the district to be assigned.

"SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in the rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection and disorder, and to punish all such officers shall be appointed on the second Tuesday of November, 1867, and all vacancies shall be filled in like manner; but if any vacancy shall occur by reason of the death or resignation of any officer, the President may fill the same by appointment, to be exercised within sixty days after such death or resignation shall occur.

"SEC. 6. That all persons who may be registered or vote at any election mentioned in the fifth section of this act shall be required to take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: 'I do solemnly swear (or affirm) in the presence of Almighty God that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and will faithfully obey the laws of the United States, and will take no part directly or indirectly in any attempt to overthrow or resist the authority thereof, and that I will to the best of my knowledge and ability encourage others so to do.' And any person who shall falsely take and subscribe such oath or affirmation, shall be punished as for the crime of perjury, and shall be disfranchised and rendered incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under the United States.

"SEC. 7. That the commanding officer of the district shall appoint a board of registration, consisting of three persons, whose duty it shall be to prepare and keep in his office a register of all persons entitled to vote under the provisions of this act, and to make out and deliver to such persons certificates

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, February 9, 1867.

Weekly Commercial.

THE LIGHT CATARRH.

MUSIC OF LABOR.

The banging of the hammer,
The whirling of the plane,
The shrieking of the saw,
The grinding of the cane,
The ringing of the anvil,
The sparking of the drill,
The clattering of the turning lathe,
The whirring of the mill,
The hissing of the spindle,
The buzz of the busy bee,
The gurgling of the grain,
The flash and motion at beam,
The clipping of the tailor's shears,
The driving of the awl,
These sounds of honest industry
I love—I love them all.

The clicking of the magic type,
The hammer's click or more,
The tolling of the giant press,
The scratching of the pen,
The tapping of the xy-stick,
The ring of the anvil,
The whistling of the needle,
(When bright cheer it pales)
The humming of the steam stove,
The surging of the cream,
The pattering of the parker pan,
As he lies thin in to-town,
The bird of the scissors,
As the ripened fruit comes down,
The tear turned—flowers
as they clear the golden grain,
The hen-key's low and soft chatter,
Neath the moonlight on the pain,
The sing-song of the cricket,
The shepherd's gentle call—
These all of these I adore
I love—I love them all.

Oh, there's a song in labor,
If we labor but aright,
That drives the victor to day-time,
A sweeter sleep at night;
A good that brings pleasure,
Even to the toiling hours;
For duty meets the spirit
As dew revives the flowers.
Then say not that Jehovah
Gave labor as a doom,
No—in the riches' mercy
From the cradle to the tomb;
Then let us still be doing
While we've fire to do,
With useful hopeful spirit
And free hearts strong and true.

BACON AND SHAKSPEARE.

Letter from James H. Hackett.

[From the New York Evening Post, January 26.]

Nathaniel Holmes, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Missouri, has lately published a book, wherein he attempts to prove that Francis Bacon alone wrote the plays which have been universally attributed to the sole authorship of William Shakspeare.

The following cursory notice of Judge Holmes's volume by Mr. Hackett, the actor, was written to one of his literary friends who had solicited his perusal and opinion of it, and who has also obtained Mr. Hackett's consent for its publication in our columns:

AUTHORSHIP OF SHAKSPEARE. By Nathaniel Holmes. Published by Hurd & Houghton, New York.

Delia Bacon, in her book, "Philosophy of the Plays of Shakspeare Unfolded: 1857," may not unnaturally have been stimulated by a womanly pride in the fame of her great ancestral namesake, when she claimed that Francis Bacon had materially assisted William Shakspeare in the composition of the plays, which their cotemporaries then believed, and the literary world has not since doubted, owed their sole authorship to Shakspeare. And Nathaniel Homes, possibly from perusing Bacon's philosophical works, may have been so dazzled by the brilliancy of his intellect, and so charmed by the splendor of his wondrous attainments, that he became an idolatrous worshipper at the shrine of his genius, and quite blind to his damning enormities; and when Delia Bacon's book came to his hand, he too rashly resolved to base a wild and bold theory of his own upon her comparatively moderate ideas respecting Bacon's connection with the "Authorship of Shakespeare."

Mr. Holmes's enthusiastic brain seems to have become suddenly possessed with the vehement conviction that Shakspeare had indeed had nothing whatever to do with their originality, and that Bacon—and Bacon only—could have composed those plays. Mr. Holmes has, in every historical and traditionary reference to the various original manuscripts, and to their "total disappearance," that his readers may be convinced that Shakspeare had not done even so much as to put those compositions into his own handwriting; else, says Mr. Holmes, it is certainly a remarkable fact that neither of these writers, Heming and Condell, who took the pains to collect and publish these works, should have preserved a single manuscript as a memorial of their departed fellow; nor any member of his family as a memento in his own handwriting of so distinguished a poet, their ancestor; not a single scrap of paper of his writing should have been handed down within the reach of any tradition."

Mr. Holmes continues: "On the other hand, taking Francis Bacon for the author, we may suppose that the original manuscript copies would be kept a secret in his private cabinets, those manuscripts only in the handwriting of William Shakspeare would come to the knowledge of the players. After Shakspeare's death (1616) it would become necessary for the real author to find some other cover for the purpose of publication. His fellow actors, Heming and Condell, are selected to stand in his place as ostensible editors. The proof-sheets could be privately sent to Bacon's chambers, in Bedford House or Gray's Inn. Their original manuscript, of course, Bacon meant to take care to destroy, if determined that the secret should die with him."

Mr. Holmes's suppositions are certainly ingenious; but, in the total absence of facts are no foundation for an argument on that head. The plays, however, having been so successful, and Shakspeare having been in his grave seven years, why should Bacon have longer kept the secret?

Because there is no written history nor tradition preserved to us when, how, where or whence Shakspeare had had the time, means or favorable opportunities to acquire such a stock of learning and knowledge, wisdom and philosophy as abounds throughout these plays, Mr. Holmes, though very judiciously scouting the absurd idea of some vague theorists that Shakspeare were like *Minerva*, "born of a perfect-ative genius alone; wholly intuitive and without education;" but at the same time yields implicit credence to idle tales of Shakspeare's youthful frolics, reckless propensities for frolicing, detection in deer stealing, etc., such as must have constituted the gossip of an after time, for whatever those may really have been. Supposing familiars could not then have foreseen a reason to note or treasure them in memory, and they were, without doubt, fabled to gratify his gaping curiosity, or to cram for, and to increase the general wonder at his works, after he had become famous. Mr. Holmes then assumes, upon such evident fabrications, that Shakspeare must have been utterly incapable of originating such plays. While Shakspeare's position as an actor made him seem an eligible person to Bacon, who had written them; for the composition of those plays upon the public stage, and but there only—the admitted fact that "Shakspeare himself was never known to recommend the getting up of an authentic edition of the plays for publication, nor had seemed to manifest any ambition, nor concern for their appreciation by posterity"—Mr. Holmes construes as evidence that Shakspeare did not originate them, but had lent and consented himself to become the cat'spaw of Bacon, that real author, for venturing them before a public audience.

Mr. Holmes then proceeds in a systematic and laborious effort to exalt and glorify the mental and moral qualities of Bacon, and to extenuate his moral crimes, and at the same time to deride Shakspeare's social status, and to underrate his then professional reputation in London as calling him an "under-actor," and merely "a servitor" in the theatrical corps; and alleges that when Shakspeare first came to London, and was a boy of twenty-two—Bacon himself then being about twenty-six years of age—Bacon had various associates with the Shakspeare family (which seem to me very dimsy and insufficient), for a concealment of himself as their author, and for persuading Shakspeare into such a private position as to permit these plays as of his own proper creation. He adds: "Ben. Jonson must have been in the secret of this arrangement. Steevens thought that Heming and Condell's Folio (1623) must have been written by Jonson, who certainly took a large part in bringing this marvelous volume to light, and in purifying in the fruitful peace the sordid effigies of this mountebank."

These "stolid effigies" thus sneered at may be reasonably imputed rather to the cruddy of the graver's art than to any stupidity in the countenance of Shakspeare; but Shakspeare, the great moral and dramatic poet, and estimated by "Middle Ages, Elizabethan" "the mythic, half-divine," "the intellectual king of men," "the greatest name in all literature," called a "mountebank!" *O temporal! O mores! Proh pudor, Magister Holmes*, upon such solid, disjointed and conjectured hypotheses and very visionary inferences to denounce thus one whose memory for the last two centuries and a half the civilization of the globe has spontaneously consecrated as that of the most universal genius, muse-inspired poet and social benefactor of any age, and whose works are admitted to be a boon to mankind! such a scurrilous epithet would seem born of a malicious and demoniacal spirit.

No intelligent *artiste du theatre* in this age can be persuaded that any but an *actor*—and one deserving the very first rank for taste and judgment in his art—could have written even "Hamlet's advice to the Player's;" "nor that any human genius, *not thoroughly familiar with the combinations of stage effecting*, could have constructed those plays. Had, then, Bacon, any experience behind the curtain? Was he upon any occasion even an amateur actor? Or, is there even once by any of his cotemporaries mention made of Bacon's having been present at any theater, or where even a play was privately or publicly acted, either prior to, during, or after Shakspeare's lifetime or appearance in London?

Let us contrast the characters of Bacon and of Shakspeare for moral and practical honesty, and inquire whether it is probable that Shakspeare could have—even if he had been induced at his first start in London—consented to continue to practice and thrive by such tricks and by an imposture prolonged through a series of some five and-twenty years? Or is it likely that, during his several years of retirement from any business connected with a theatre, nor especially when conscious of his near approach unto death, Shakspeare would not himself then have proclaimed the fact was not the real author of the plays given to the community in his name? Or is it likely that Bacon, in 1631, when Shakspeare had been dead five years, and he himself "fallen, like Lucifer, never to rise again," would longer have kept such a secret, and not have been ambitious of the credit of having rendered the world such a benefaction as was the authorship of these same plays?

Is there a history, or tradition of, or a single allusion to, any personal acquaintance or intercourse having existed between Bacon and Shakspeare? For such a business, they must have had some, if not many and frequent, interviews. Assuming, however, for argument sake, that each might have had, at one time, an interested motive for using the other, and for forming such a secret compact; and that—on the side of Bacon, as Mr. Holmes intimates—"his desire to rise in the profession of the law, or his ambition for high place in the state, the plan of life he had chosen to follow, the low reputation of a play-writer in that age, and other reasons which were of themselves a sufficient explanation of Bacon's wish to cover this authorship, and to remain a concealed poet; and also that, on the part of Shakspeare, we may imagine, as his inducement, such a compact would save him much time, labor and toil, and avail him, too, of the advantage of Bacon's known wisdom, ripe scholarship, classical lore, bright intellect, and his more than lofty philosophy, and also of the pecuniary profits reasonably to be expected to accrue to the treasury of his theater from the performances of such productions as his master-pieces plays; admitting, then, that a secret agreement had been made between Bacon and Shakspeare, could it be possible that their mutual confidence could ever, in intimate friends and jealous rivals or active enemies in their respective vocations, should all have been so blinded or deceived? Or have we been famished in the absence of the facts? or have so faithfully kept the secret that it died with them all individually and collectively; Ben Jonson, who would certainly have penned the real truth? Ben Jonson, who said, "I loved the man and do honor to his memory on this side of idolatry as much as any." Was he indeed honest, and of an open and free nature?" Shakspeare is recorded to have disposed of all his interest in the management of a theatre some seven years prior to his death, and to have purchased and retired to and resided at New Place until his decease, 23d April, 1616. Bacon survived Shakspeare about twenty years, and had attained to the height of his ambition—the Lord High Chancellorship of England; and in 1621, to a Parliamentary inquiry he fully confessed twenty-eight items of charge of corruption which were laid to his charge and which resulted in his condemnation and disgrace, and banishment forever from public life. Those confessions of his crimes reflect upon his life, career and character, and upon those of Shakspeare, and compare and contrast them, how can we reasonably suppose Bacon himself, in the midst of having lived several years thereafter, and his dying without intimating or claiming some redeeming merit with posterity, if he had actually written those plays? pecuniary.

Mr. Holmes has shown great patience, industry and perseverance in searching out, selecting and collecting, and also much ingenuity in commenting upon, such as he regarded to be the same and parallel passages in the respective writings of Bacon and Shakspeare; and has labored hard to point out such similitudes of thought and of style in their respective expressions, and in the order and formation of many sentences from the works of each, as Mr. Holmes thinks would only have been originated by one and the same mind; while, to my judgment, every one of those quoted indicates separate and distinct idiosyncrasies and traits of character, and a point of expiring, "That," said he "is thine!"

"O! I dear godfather!" said the trembling man; I can't—I can't—I'm not worthy to be the husband of the little maiden I have saved!"

"In vain dost thou ask," replied Death; "the child is thine must die, before a new one can be lighted."

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Death feigned to grant the petition; but when he touched the little flickering flame, it fell and was extinguished, and Death's cold hand clutched his goldchild."

Parisian Literature.

The following spicy account of the condition of Parisian literature we clip from the letter of the *Publisher's Circular*:

"Some time since a M. Debriges, being hard pressed for money, applied to assistance to M. Louis Gardain, an editor of *Le Siecle*. The latter had neither gold nor silver, but he engaged M. Debriges to *make* a book, and suggested the Chevalier d'Eon as a book to be shelved. So, Debriges picked up an old work entitled 'Les Memoires du Chevalier d'Eon,' published in 1836 by M. Gaillardet, and used his scissors with unflinching skill. M. Gaillardet, astonished the book as author, and, M. Denin published it. A short time since M. Gaillardet wished to bring out a new edition of 'Les Memoires du Chevalier d'Eon;' indeed, presented it to a publisher he was told it was only a reprint of M. Debriges' 'L'Hermaphrodite,' examined the latter, and found, it was composed almost entirely of his work, copied literally. He, therefore, brought suit. MM. Jourdain and Debriges attempted to persuade him to abandon his suit by means of the explanations I have given, and M. Debriges added that he thought the copyright of M. Gaillardet's book had expired. M. Gaillardet refused to accept the explanations, and has written some harsh cards in the public prints. He has something to do—what his share was he never clearly appeared—with writing 'La Tour de Nesle.' He had to bring a suit against M. Alex. Dumas to secure the appearance of his name on the play-bills, and on the printed book, as an author of the piece. This suit led to a duel between him and Alex. Dumas. When M. Dumas published his memoirs, M. Gaillardet attacked him for the history he gave 'La Tour de Nesle.' Now he is attacking Messrs. Jordain and Debriges. He is an author never heard of by the public, and on the other hand, the lady in His name is familiar to many of your readers by his career as editor of *Le Courrier des Etats Unis*, the able organ of French interests in the United States. M. de Lamartine's work on De Balzac is likewise looked on as a literary scandal. It is made up almost entirely of extracts from De Balzac's works. It is something even worse than his 'Life of Byron,' and is almost as bad as his 'History of Russia,' which was *cut* out of M. Schnitzler's 'History of Russia,' or his work on the 'Beauties of Job,' which appeared in *Le Siecle*. This newspaper gave him twenty sous a line. To make as many lines as possible, he put into his work the whole book of Job, and little else—just sauce enough to 'bind' the ingredients of the dish together."

A Woman's Habit.

We find the following among the "Nebulæ" in the last *Galaxy*:

The eyeing of women by women is one of the most offensive manifestations of supercilliousness now to be met with in society. Few observant persons can have failed to notice the manner in which one woman, who is not perfectly well bred or perfectly kind hearted, will eye over another woman who she thinks is not in such good society, and above all, not at the time being in so costly a dress as she herself is. I can draw every where; at parties, at church, in the street. It is done by women in all conditions of life. The very servant girls learn it from their mistresses. It is done in an instant. Who is most recah hundreds of instances of that sweep of the eye which takes in at a glance the whole woman and what she has on, from top to toe, and shows it? It cannot be a new fashion of behavior, but the daily increasing pretense of people to more prosperity, because they can afford to spend more money upon their backs than others can, makes it at once more common and more remarkable even than it was ten or fifteen years ago. Both are very guilty of it, or with such extreme rarety, and then in such feeble and small souled specimens of their sex, that it may be set down as a sin not lescening, or at least opiecue. But women of sense, of some breeding, and even of some kindliness of nature, will thus endeavor to assert a superiority over their neighbors, and in so doing inflict a wound in a manner the most cowardly because it cannot be resented or admits of no resort. If they unfortunately have been unlovely, how positively offensive they make themselves in so doing, not only to their silent victims, but to every generous-hearted man who observes their manner, they would give up a triumph at once so mean and so cruel, which obtained at such a sacrifice on their part. No other evidence than this evening is needed that a woman, whatever be her birth or breeding, has a small and vulgar soul.

* OILING A VENTRILOQUIST.—We find this bit of quiet fun in an English paper: "A gentleman going down the river on a steamer, the engine of which was upon deck, he sauntered out to see the working of the machinery. Near him stood a man apparently bent on the same object. In a few moments a squeaking noise was heard on the opposite side of the engine. Seizing the oil can—a gigantic one by the way—the engineer sought out the dry spot, and to prevent further noise of that kind, liberally applied the contents of the can to every joint. All went on well for a while, when the squeaking was heard in another direction. The oiling process was repeated and quiet was restored; but as the engineer was coming quietly towards the spot occupied by the gentleman and the stranger, he heard another squeak. This time he detected the true cause of the difficulty. The stranger was a ventriloquist. Walking straight up behind him, he seized the astonished joker by the nape of the neck and emptied the contents of the can down his back. 'There,' said he, 'I don't believe that old engine will squeak again.'"

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The young physician's name became famous throughout the world; from far and near men sought him, for his word of life or death never failed; fortune smiled on him, and he became rich. At last the King fell, and the skillful doctor was called to his aid. When he neared the royal bed, Death stood at the foot, and stared in the sick man's face. But the physician would not despair for the sake of such a patient, he resolved to outwit the godfather, trusting to be forgiven for the first offense. He therefore turned the King's head, so that Death stood between the pillows and Monarch's head. He then administered the healing herb, and the King was cured and arose. Death scowled on his godchild, and raised his long finger with threatening gestures.

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How Mr. Jefferson Came Near Being Bust-ed.

Many years ago, when Thomas Jefferson was President of the United States, an attempt was made at Washington to execute his bust of plaster of Paris after a new plan which, but for the fortune of an accident, might have ended in the death of the President. An artist by the name of Brower fitted a bust lightly about the President's neck and left an opening in the top through which he was to pour the liquid plaster. The hair of Mr. Jefferson was prepared in the usual way, his ears stopped up, and a couple of quills were put into the nostrils communicating with the outside of the box, through which it was supposed the artist would get sufficient air if fresh air could be obtained. The artist was not, however, as well read in physiology as he might have been, or labored under the common delusion that ordinary air, unless the President of the United States, could get enough oxygen to sustain life through a couple of small goose quills. Mr. Jefferson took his usual nap in couch, his head in a box, and the artist poured in his plaster. For a short time the great statesman patiently submitted to the uncomfortable position, but finding the supply of air insufficient, he got up, and, dashing his head against the wall, broke the box, and the whole contrivance fell to the floor in fragments. Thus ended the attempt of Mr. Brower to take a *bust* of the President.

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Parisian Literature.

The following spicy account of the condition of Parisian literature we clip from the letter of the *Publisher's Circular*:

"Some time since a M. Debriges, being hard pressed for money, applied to assistance to M. Louis Gardain, an editor of *Le Siecle*. The latter had neither gold nor silver, but he engaged M. Debriges to *make* a book, and suggested the Chevalier d'Eon as a book to be shelved. So, Debriges picked up an old work entitled 'Les Memoires du Chevalier d'Eon,' published in 1836 by M. Gaillardet, and used his scissors with unflinching skill. M. Gaillardet, astonished the book as author, and, M. Denin published it. A short time since M. Gaillardet wished to bring out a new edition of 'Les Memoires du Chevalier d'Eon;' indeed, presented it to a publisher he was told it was only a reprint of M. Debriges' 'L'Hermaphrodite,' examined the latter, and found, it was composed almost entirely of his work, copied literally. He, therefore, brought suit. MM. Jourdain and Debriges attempted to persuade him to abandon his suit by means of the explanations I have given, and M. Debriges added that he thought the copyright of M. Gaillardet's book had expired. M. Gaillardet refused to accept the explanations, and has written some harsh cards in the public prints. He has something to do—what his share was he never clearly appeared—with writing 'La Tour de Nesle.' He had to bring a suit against M. Alex. Dumas to secure the appearance of his name on the play-bills, and on the printed book, as an author of the piece. This suit led to a duel between him and Alex. Dumas. When M. Dumas published his memoirs, M. Gaillardet attacked him for the history he gave 'La Tour de Nesle.' Now he is attacking Messrs. Jordain and Debriges. He is an author never heard of by the public, and on the other hand, the lady in His name is familiar to many of your readers by his career as editor of *Le Courrier des Etats Unis*, the able organ of French interests in the United States. M. de Lamartine's work on De Balzac is likewise looked on as a literary scandal. It is made up almost entirely of extracts from De Balzac's works. It is something even worse than his 'Life of Byron,' and is almost as bad as his 'History of Russia,' which was *cut* out of M. Schnitzler's 'History of Russia,' or his work on the 'Beauties of Job,' which appeared in *Le Siecle*. This newspaper gave him twenty sous a line. To make as many lines as possible, he put into his work the whole book of Job, and little else—just sauce enough to 'bind' the ingredients of the dish together."

How Mr. Jefferson Came Near Being Bust-ed.

Many years ago, when Thomas Jefferson was President of the United States, an attempt was made at Washington to execute his bust of plaster of Paris after a new plan which, but for the fortune of an accident, might have ended in the death of the President. An artist by the name of Brower fitted a bust lightly about the President's neck and left an opening in the top through which he was to pour the liquid plaster. The hair of Mr. Jefferson was prepared in the usual way, his ears stopped up, and a couple of quills were put into the nostrils communicating with the outside of the box, through which it was supposed the artist would get sufficient air if fresh air could be obtained. The artist was not, however, as well read in physiology as he might have been, or labored under the common delusion that ordinary air, unless the President of the United States, could get enough oxygen to sustain life through a couple of small goose quills. Mr. Jefferson took his usual nap in couch, his head in a box, and the artist poured in his plaster. For a short time the great statesman patiently submitted to the uncomfortable position, but finding the supply of air insufficient, he got up, and, dashing his head against the wall, broke the box, and the whole contrivance fell to the floor in fragments. Thus ended the attempt of Mr. Brower to take a *bust* of the President.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 6, 1867.

There continues to be a very active demand for money upon all our banks, which is freely supplied on good customer paper. No change in rates on the open market, but good names are negotiated for at from 10 to 12 per cent. Much complaint is heard on account of the difficulty in making collections. Whether from a scarcity of money in the country, or a disposition to hold on to all that comes to their hands, debtors are not prompt in their January settlements, and the calculations of creditors have been in very many instances very grievously disappointed. It is very probable that until Congress more clearly defines its position on the questions of contraction, tariff and kindred subjects, there will be grave apprehensions of the future felt and a disposition to husband all that is ready on hand, and a trusting to the future to pay off indebtedness.

The reports from the New York Stock Board to-day received by S. S. Bryan, show an unsettled market. Gold opened weaker but advanced at the close. Governments are firm, as will be seen by the current rates of to-day:

Gold	137
U. S. Bonds, 1881	108
" 5-20s 1862	106
" 5-20s 1864	106
" 5-20s 1865	105
" 7-30's	103
Michigan Southern	79
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	85
Chicago and Northwestern	38½
Chicago and Northwestern preferred	65½
Chicago and Rock Island	94
New York Central	102½

AT 12½ O'CLOCK P. M.

Gold	137½
Erie	59
Michigan Southern	79¼
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	85
Chicago and Northwestern	38
Chicago and Northwestern preferred	65½
Chicago and Rock Island	94¼
New York Central	102½

AT 3½ O'CLOCK P. M.

Gold	137¾
Erie	59½
Michigan Southern	79¾
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	85
Chicago and Northwestern	38
Chicago and Northwestern preferred	65½
Chicago and Rock Island	94¾
New York Central	102¾

—The following is the text of the resolution relative to the contraction of the legal tender currency, adopted in the House yesterday by a majority of 82 to 70, which we have referred to above:

Resolved, That the public interest demands that there shall not, during the current year, be a reduction of the aggregate amount of United States Notes, commonly called greenbacks.

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to report such bill as may be necessary to carry this object.

The New York *Commercial* remarks as follows upon the probable effects of this resolution on the Gold market: It is difficult to conceive upon what rational grounds the price of gold advanced on the announcement of the adoption of this resolution. It is true that there is very general misconception that the value of the currency is dependent upon its value, and those who believe in this delusion have apparently acted upon the supposition that the adoption of the bill, however, the price of gold is regulated by the credit of the Government, in its relation to greenbacks, and by the supply and demand of gold. Contraction, so far as it has been put in force, has reduced the supply of gold, and seriously endangered the public revenues; in this way, it has a direct injurious bearing upon the public credit, and consequently favors an advance in the premium on gold, although that effect might not be a at first apparent. No contraction means the absence of arbitrary interference with the currency, and the consequent exemption of business from monetary embarrassment; which again implies an ample national exchequer, one of the best supports of the Government credit. For this reason the stoppage of contraction is to be regarded as favoring a decline in gold, and whatever may be the present effect of erroneous views upon this question, that must be its ultimate result.

—The following shows the totals of the average of the leading items of the Philadelphia banks for the past and previous week:

Last Wk. This Wk.	
Capital	$17,495,000 Increase $74,000
Loans	32,166,477 32,385,100 Increase 382,607
Specie	2,678,149 2,678,149 Decrease 0
Legal Tenders	19,361,871 19,249,123 Decrease 91,248
Due from Banks	3,597,870 3,674,170 Increase 76,300
Due to Banks	9,567,805 9,674,170 Increase 26,857
Deposits	25,611,703 25,738,560 Increase 126,857
Circulation	10,384,853 10,430,866 Increase 46,013

The bank statement shows a small decrease in the items of specie and legal tenders. All the other items show a slight increase—the deposits $900,033, loans $882,67, and the circulation $46,210. The Clearings amount to $30 009,574 against $27,979,004 the previous week, showing a more active business; and the Balances aggregate $6,842,873, against $2,840,200 the previous week.

—The New York *Herald* says that brokers require their customers to put up twenty per cent. margins instead of ten as was the custom previously. In some of the stocks, like gold, and much if not all of this is available for the brokers' own operations if they choose to employ it. Stocks can be easily loaned and the borrower gives the lender a check for the full market value, but writes this cannot be done brokers have a habit of "turning" their customers' stocks and selling the "short" against the "long" account in a way which relieves them from controlling the stock, and is always supposed to be carrying a large amount of securities. It is the capital which flows into a broker's hands in margins that makes the business even more attractive than the high rate of interest. Some brokers, it is said, even inflict a wound in a manner the most cowardly because it cannot be resented or admits of no resort. If they unfortunately have been unlovely, how positively offensive they make themselves in so doing, not only to their silent victims, but to every generous-hearted man who observes their manner, they would give up a triumph at once so mean and so cruel, which obtained at such a sacrifice on their part. No other evidence than this evening is needed that a woman, whatever be her birth or breeding, has a small and vulgar soul.

* OILING A VENTRILOQUIST.—We find this bit of quiet fun in an English paper: "A gentleman going down the river on a steamer, the engine of which was upon deck, he sauntered out to see the working of the machinery. Near him stood a man apparently bent on the same object. In a few moments a squeaking noise was heard on the opposite side of the engine. Seizing the oil can—a gigantic one by the way—the engineer sought out the dry spot, and to prevent further noise of that kind, liberally applied the contents of the can to every joint. All went on well for a while, when the squeaking was heard in another direction. The oiling process was repeated and quiet was restored; but as the engineer was coming quietly towards the spot occupied by the gentleman and the stranger, he heard another squeak. This time he detected the true cause of the difficulty. The stranger was a ventriloquist. Walking straight up behind him, he seized the astonished joker by the nape of the neck and emptied the contents of the can down his back. 'There,' said he, 'I don't believe that old engine will squeak again.'"

Parisian Literature.

The following spicy account of the condition of Parisian literature we cl

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1867.

TERMS:

One copy per year.....$2 00
In clubs of Twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis, to the getter-up of the club.

CO ORDINATE OR SUB ORDINATE

The relations between the three departments of the Government, are a subject of much thought and some controversy, at the present time. This has brought out the inquiry, are the departments co-ordinate, or is some one entitled to superiority of power and control over the others. This question has not only arisen in the discussion, but in the political warfare of the day, it has assumed a concrete form in allegations against the different departments, that they were usurping authority and prerogatives of control over each other. Whether these allegations are true or false in the particular applications referred to, they indicate an underlying conviction in the public mind, that the departments are co ordinate with, and not sub-ordinate to each other.

It is evident, however, that strong party prejudices would like to have the privilege of making exceptions to this doctrine whenever it would suit party interests to do so. To this we lift up our voice in unhesitating opposition, as it evidently contravenes and deranges the essential principles of free government. We take the ground that the departments are co-ordinate, not subordinate to each other, and that all, the Judiciary as well as the Executive and Legislative, are subject to the sovereign will of the people, expressed in prescribed Constitutional forms.

To refer, for illustration of our views, again to the allegations of usurpation, brought against different departments. It has been alleged against the President, against Congress, and, lastly, against the highest bench of the Judiciary. In the case of the President, it was made an occasion of appeal to the people, and at the fall elections they uttered their condemnation of the President for contemplating or attempting to override Congress. His own words, uttered in this city, were deemed proof of the intention. The words were these: "If the Executive should take his stand at the door of the Legislature, and forbid all proceedings till the voice of the people could be heard, where is the encroachment?" Again, the Democratic press is denouncing Congress as usurpers of authority over the President. The Richmond *Enquirer* says: "Congress at this moment is deliberately and determinedly usurping an absolute supremacy over the other Departments." And of late, in view of certain opinions and decisions, the Judiciary has been charged with arrogating powers that do not belong to it, by which the other Departments are shorn of some of their prerogatives, and by which *the sovereign will of the people is contravened.*

It seems to be a venal fault, in political contests, to handly accusations like these between Congress and the President, when they happen to differ. But to do the same toward the Judiciary is deemed an unpardonable sin—a revolutionary and disorganizing measure, at which habitual blasphemers of President and Congress lift up their hands in holy horror. Let us candidly look at the case.

The true doctrine is that all the departments, and the Judiciary as one of them, are subject to the supreme will of the people. What does this mean? That if the highest Court decide a case in such a way as not to suit a great many people they may disregard it? By no means. But the people have assigned to the Judiciary certain functions to which it is to confine itself. And its decisions within that sphere, the people require the Executive to carry into effect. Its opinions outside of the sphere assigned to it, or, in other words, its political awards have but the weight of the political opinions. The President himself recognizes the correctness of this position. Even when expressing hypothetically a purpose to violate his relations with Congress, it is in order *"that the voice of the people may be heard."* And what are the piteous appeals, of the press in sympathy with him and his chiefs, but recognitions of the right of sovereignty residing in the people. And, as the sovereign people have, not three months ago, deliberately expressed their will on these matters, these piteous appeals are simply a petition that the Executive will be so good as to reverse their own decision and let the President, now in a measure backed extra-officially by the Judiciary, have his way in the political administration of the Government.

On the original sovereignty of the people, with refe rence to *all* the departments of the Government, we have the strong backing of one whom the modern, bogus Democracy honors but little even in name —THOMAS JEFFERSON, of Virginia. Speaking of the common notion that on all questions the Supreme Court is the last resort, which is referred to as an old Federalist notion, MR. JEFFERSON says, embracing a solemn caution in the utterance:

"The Constitution, on this hypothesis, is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the Judiciary, which they may twist and shape into any form they please. It should be remembered as an eternal truth that whatever power is wholly independent to abandon to its own discretion, is, first, while the spirit of the people is so, but in proportion as that relaxes, despotic; and error can be fenced nowhere but with the people in mass; they are inherently *independent* of all but moral law."

This is in a letter dated Sept. 6, 1819; and again, a year later, he writes of the relations of the departments to *each other*, as he did above of their subordination to the people: "Our judges are as honest as other men and not more so—their power is the more dangerous, as they are in office for life and are not responsible, as the other functionaries are, to elective control. The Constitution has made no such single tribunal. It has more wisely made all the departments co-equal and co-sovereign, within themselves."

We invariably make exception, as does Mr. JEFFERSON, of moral questions. But, for example, if the President or the Supreme Court or both should determine that leading rebels should be admitted to high positions and functions in the Government, we care not what old laws and precedents may be brought to bear in the case, we maintain that the will of the people has controlling power of the question, and having said "we will not have rebels placed in authority over us or among us," that decision is final and covers the whole ground. In this view of the case, which is the true old Republican and Democratic view, it is next to impossible—certainly impossible only for a time—that Congress should usurp authority or transcend its prerogative, being so directly and speedily responsible to the people. Certainly the people have rebuked, at the elections, the assumption of the Executive. And the Court is amenable, in the orderly way, to the same orginal sovereignty.

NEW RAILROADS.

It is manifestly impossible to keep the facilities and means for transportation between East an West stationary, while the population of the great producing States is increasing more than 60 per cent. every ten years. Therefore, the subject of transportation in and through the State of Pennsylvania must be considered in connection with the interests and movements of distant localities, and not as a mere home question. The Western people have evidently been led, by a feeling of necessity, to seek for more ample and cheaper means of getting their produce to the Eastern markets and the seaboard.

The want of this operates powerfully to discourage production in the West, for the more produce the Western farmers raise, the more their home market is glutted and prices depressed, without the possibility of relief by sales abroad, on account of the lack and high cost of transportation. The consequences of this condition are felt both East and West—prices being too low at the producer's door, and too high when the produce reaches the hands of the consumer.

There are in the Northern States, through which the immense and increasing products of the West chiefly pass to their Eastern destination, but six great railway lines and one canal. These are found insufficient for the business that converges on them from the numerous lines of land and water carriage in the broad West. To escape the high charges, the delays, the irregularities, unavoidable under these circumstances, the immense business requires increased facilities, as it rolls Eastward, accumulating as it goes. It is vain to try to stop the current seeking an Eastward outlet.

It is an object of interest to have as much as possible of this moving wealth flow through our own State. We can hold out the inducement of excellent Western railroads, and steamboats amply sufficient to accommodate all the business likely to come in this direction, and we can give assurance of an Eastern road energetic and active to the extent of its capacity. But we need more Eastern facilities. If we do not supply them, business will seek other channels. It is seeking them now, and it will find them. The Niagara Ship Canal is pressed upon Congress with an energy and persistence which Pennsylvania might well emulate in urging her railway legislation through, and in promoting her interests in this vast business. To secure her share New York is aroused, and is proposing to enlarge the capacity of her grand canal, and to reduce to the lowest possible rate the tolls on freight. For years past that canal has carried an amount of tonnage, during the season of navigation, equal to *sixty railroad freight trains a day.* We can, unfortunately, offer no canal transportation, but railroads we can have. And yet our legislators pause and hesitate even in reference to these. And while they are hesitating and delaying, for reasons best known to themselves, both with reference to a General Railroad Law, and also to the Connellsville line, the business is seeking other channels, and inconvenience, cost and loss are entailed on the enterprise of the country. Cheap freights from here to the Eastern cities would rapidly increase the business on our rivers. The Monongahela wharf would resume its old appearance, and the immense business of former times on the Ohio, the Mississippi, and their tributaries, would again pass through Pittsburgh, while our numerous railways would still have freight enough to occupy them to their full capacity.

WILL THE LEGISLATURE CHEAT THE PEOPLE?

The legislation of last winter in this State, was such as to bring the question of a General Railroad Law squarely before the public. The press of both parties generally favored it. The two candidates for Governor, General GEARY and Mr. CLYMER, on being questioned, took strong ground in favor of such a law. As a general thing those who had voted against the principle in the Legislature were left at home. In short, the question was distinctly passed upon, and carried almost unanimously, the opposition to it, as usual, reserving its strength to operate in the Legislature. There it is all work, with such potent influences, it is said, as to throw a doubt over the prospect, and render it questionable whether, after all, what the people so generally asked for, will not be denied them.

We have said that we do not believe the responsible majority can afford to deny the people this law. It is hard to see how the Legislature can do anything else than promptly pass a fair and square general law, honestly providing for the construction of railroads by all who may choose to organize under it, without incurring the odium of having yielded to the railroad monopoly, which is generally credited with using other than the legitimate means to carry or defeat measures.

Not only must there be a general law, but it must be an honest one—no trick in the form of a law, to serve the monopoly and cheat the people—but a law framed to meet the wants of the people and carried through in their interest.

We are aware that the monopoly possesses itself favorable to *a* law, and has kindly offered to take the matter in charge. Let no man be deceived with professions and offers like these. The managers are shrewd men, and will yield nothing without a struggle. To trust them in this matter, or with any part of it, would be like seeking protection in the tiger's lair. No representative, unless he is casting about for some device for cheating his constituents, and serving the monopoly which pays well, will think of it. Those who have some such idea, with some such influence operating with them, will doubtless propose to commit to the managers of the monopoly the framing of the bill.

We would propose nothing that would disregard the interests or rights of existing corporations—but we insist that the people and their interests shall be consulted first—and promptly.

The question is—will the Legislature do it? Whom will ye serve?

HONORS AND PROFITS.

It is to the credit of members of the Legislature that—as is reported of some of them—they should aspire to higher honors. *It is natural enough that* particularly ambitious gentlemen should start thus early in the race for the United States Senatorship, to be filled two years hence, though the time to elapse admits of the possibility that the best plans may be disconcerted. But it is to the credit of no one, in order to get a start for the United States Senatorship, or any post, that he enters the service of the Central Railroad Monopoly, especially when to serve it the people must be betrayed. It is our opinion that whoever enters that service had better secure the ready pay in money, for it is very improbable that the Monopoly, two years hence, will have it in its power to redeem any promise it may now make concerning the United States Senatorship, even if redemption is intended. And even if this were not so, the man who serves a bargain-driver now will be so thoroughly ruined politically that he will be fit only to throw overboard, and the Central—no matter what may have been the bargain—will not touch him, except to kick him out of the way as just so much unserviceable material.

It is among the rumors from Harrisburg that the Senatorial fever prevails to a certain extent there, and that that and the railroad question—the Connellsville and the General Law—have somehow got mixed—the averment being, that the Central, in order to further its objects in regard to these measures—the Connellsville in particular—has inspired extraordinary expectations, concerning the Senatorship, in an influential quarter. It is difficult to say what would be most noticeable in such an arrangement—the stupidity or dishonesty of the Legislative contracting party.

If there be those in the Legislature—as is alleged—who are aspirants for higher honors, or even for those they now have, we venture to suggest that there is no surer way of achieving their object, than by being honest legislators—by serving the people at their stated pay, rather than the Railroad Monopoly at even the much better pay—that is, if money alone is considered—which it is by those to such as it deems worth buying. All other considerations aside, there is one fact which Representatives at Harrisburg should bear in mind, which is this: No one can enter the service of a great monied power without incurring the fatal reproach of having sold himself. Therefore we say, whoever goes into that service should get something better than promises of support hereafter. Take the ready greenbacks, gentlemen, and insist on a round sum; for it will be the last of you that betray the people to serve a monied power.

NATURALIZED NEW YORK

New York appears to be, to a large extent, a city of foreigners. As a great seaport, it becomes naturally an eddy in the current of immigration into which turns a large amount of the floating material, and that which is not generally of the better sort. Every European nationality is represented. In the aggregate, the foreign population is in larger proportion than in any other city. The late census taken in New York State presents some unexpected and highly suggestive facts. For example, the number of foreign or naturalized voters in New York city is 77,475, while that of native born citizens is only 51,500, the foreign exceeding by 26,000. The foreign population, also, has a larger proportion of voters in it than the native born citizens, so that with less people they have more votes *proportionally* as well as in the aggregate. This looks very strange and not altogether agreeable. If they are responsible for the wretched and wasteful government of that city, it is not a good model to follow.

There is another item in the census—a new one—which shows that the naturalized citizens are not only better at getting votes, but also at getting children. In prolificness, they go clear ahead of our people. The families are classified in the census according to the number of children in them, or belonging to the heads of them, whether dead or living. This column embraces families having as high as twenty-five. Well, of domestic circles or crowds, having from eight or ten to twenty-three children, the proportion of foreign to native is about as *three to one.* So that they are, if the Hibernicism will pass, raising their own adopted citizens at a rapid rate.

In the State at large, the relative numbers of population and of voters are very different. The alien population incline largely to settle in cities, and New York has, as the great depot of immigration, its full share. It would no doubt be better for immigrants to spread through the country, and it would be better for the country that they should. In a political point of view, it would be decidedly better, as assimilation to American ideas and acquaintance with American principles of government would be more readily and thoroughly effected by a closer and freer mingling with American people, from the period of childhood in the public schools, to the time of manhood at the polls. It would then make little difference where one was born, where all were reared and educated together on the broad, free platform of American liberty.

WHAT HINDERS.

The tardiness of Congress in getting legislation through its hands must be occasioned by the intrinsic difficulties of the subjects before them. The reconstruction measures, the tariff, the revenue and tax bill, are very important ones, and their early completion is highly desirable. Generally, delays are caused by long speeches, by the pertinacious opposition of minorities or captious individuals, by the uncertain position or even balance of parties. But none of them appear to present any great hindrance to progress at the present time. The majority in both houses is decided and united, the passion for speaking appears to be unusually moderate, and with the exception of the tariff question, there is no fear from Executive vetoes.

At this former session of this Congress there was similar procrastination. Perhaps it was unavoidable. We only speak of the fact, without inflixing any blame. The patience of the country was sorely tried by the delay. On the opening of this session there was an appearance of promptitude and earnestness that looked business-like. The ordinary formalities of opening were hardly waited for, before business began. But the body seems to have got back again to the last year's languor and delay. It must arise wholly from the difficulties inherent in the subjects. If it be so, the people should be forbearing and patient. The Legislature should have all the time necessary for the work. Slow legislation is not so much to be deprecated as bad legislation. Let the business be done well, if it take months to do it.

The delay ought to bring some credit to the dominant party in Congress—the credit of not abusing a power which they possess. If their own party projects were all they sought to promote, they could do it, carrying everything through with a strong and high hand. But the dominant party is seeking the best interests of the country it has saved, and if it encounter difficulty in constructing laws suited to the emergency, it must be allowed time to remove or obviate them, and to get legislation effected, not so much rapidly, as wisely and safely.

THE FINANCIAL CONTRACTION.

The Hon. ROSCOE CONKLING, the newly elected United States Senator from New York, but at present a member of the House of Representatives, has sought the views of the Hon. GEORGE OPDYKE, one of the most intelligent merchants in New York City. That gentleman responds to the application of Mr. CONKLING in a well-written article, clear in its statements and forcible in its arguments, and, as it is in strong contrast with the late speech of Mr. MORRILL. He is in favor of contraction to a certain extent, but not at the rate or the extent proposed by the Secretary of the Treasury; for he believes that the policy of that officer, if persisted in, must end in a financial convulsion, such as the country has not seen since 1857. The following is a portion of Mr. OPDYKE's letter:

"Is this rate of contraction too rapid, or too slow? or is it the proper one, interpreting prudence and safety meet? I have no hesitation in pronouncing it too rapid. It nearly equals the rate at which we increased the circulation per capita under the inexorable necessities of war, and it could not be carried down to those figures with greater rapidity than they then advanced. Is this prudent or safe? Could it be accomplished without the most serious disturbance and ruin to the people in financial embarrassments of the most serious character? Every one familiar with the principles of finance or with the financial history of Great Britain from 1810 to 1820, and the United States from 1862 to 1866, must unhesitatingly answer in the negative. In my judgment, would inevitably produce, before the end of the year, a convulsion of a character on the part of the government and the banks, and widely extended derangement throughout the community. In fact, the contraction of the last three months, through its effect on prices, has already produced a shock to business in this and in all other departments of industry. Yet this is but the first half of the period during which the policy of contraction, if it is to be followed out as proposed here as a basis of action to fill up the capital stock of the company in such currency soldiers in clean bright uniforms are in attendance to open and close the doors of the carriages, and the names of the guests are announced by a liveried servant as they enter the receiving parlor. The fulsome praise of newspapers generally, regarding the manner in which public men and their ladies receive is disgusting when bestowed on General and Mrs. Grant, as they are proverbially plain and cordial, without any effort at snobbish elegance, and are free from cold formalities, although they have deservedly won a reputation for placing their guests at ease from the start. There is an apparent air of domesticity about them as they stand together, which at once makes every one feel at home, and the elegant but unpretending manner in which one of the dwelling are in keeping with the unaffected character of the occupants. Every one "likes to go to Grant's," and the General must know by this time that greatness costs not a little in the wear and tear of carpets and furniture, besides loss of rest, sleepless nights and aching shoulders.

THEY SCATTERED.—When the Senate Friday rejected Mr. Sumner's amendment to the tariff bill, proposing to reduce the tariff on bituminous coal to fifty cents per ton, there was a general scattering of the male spectators in the galleries. It turned out that about two hundred Nova Scotia and New England coal-boatmen had come to Washington, expecting that Mr. Sumner's amendment would be adopted, but the decided vote against the proposed reduction of duty struck consternation into the ranks of the lobbyists, and they cleared out.

The *Tribune* very properly says: The Pacific Railroad has been generously—yes, munificently—endowed by the United States. One of the principal conditions of such endowment was the exclusive use of American iron in constructing it. As we understand the doings of the Senate last night, the company is now seeking an escape from this condition, intending to use British iron hereafter. We trust the House will emphatically veto this evasion.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 1, 1867.

SENATE.

Bills in Place.

By Mr. Bigham—A general railroad law.

Mr. Wallace—Act to give courts increased powers in regard to corporations.

Also, act empowering the commutation of the death penalty.

Also, joint resolution revising the civil laws of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Graham—Petition of fifteen hundred citizens of Allegheny county to repeal the Tioga law relative to occupancy of houses by laborers in coal mines.

Mr. Lowry—Reported a bill allowing colored people to ride in all cars. Postponed until next Tuesday.

The act regulating the fares on Oakland passenger Railroad was passed.

HOUSE.

The following petitions were presented:

By Mr. Wilson—From citizens of Pittsburgh, asking for a reduction of fare on Oakland Passenger Railroad.

Petition from Judges and citizens of Allegheny county relative to fees of the Coroner.

Mr. Chadwick—From 1,300 citizens of Allegheny county for the repeal of the Tioga act.

Mr. Weller—In favor of a free railroad law.

Mr. McCamant—For a railroad from Pattonsville through the gap.

Mr. Linton—From School Directors of Millville borough, Cambria county, to levy a tax to build schools.

Mr. Kimmell—From two hundred women of Saltsburg, Westmoreland county, against repeal of the license law.

Mr. Gallagher—From four hundred citizens of New Alexander and Bolivar, Westmoreland county, in favor of a prohibitory liquor law.

A New Bill.

Mr. Boyle offered a resolution for a new rule which had been voted out of order last week. It provides that when any bill had been in possession of a committee ten days, a majority of the House could discharge the committee from the consideration of the same. This created considerable excitement. During the discussion it was charged that committees kept certain bills in committee, and would not let them out. Messrs. Boyle, Wilson, Ewing and Pennypacker spoke in favor, and Messrs. Waddell, Kerns, Quigley and Quay against. The opponents of the change succeeded in preventing a direct vote, until the hour of adjournment.

A General Railroad Law--Senator Bigham's New Bill.

Rights of Colored People as Travelers.

The following is the bill prepared by Senator Bigham, and read in place by him on Friday:

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE FORMATION OF RAILROAD CORPORATIONS.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, &c., That any number of citizens of Pennsylvania, not less than nine, may form a corporation of the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a railroad for public use in the conveyance of persons and property on or for the use of maintaining and operating a railroad or railroads already constructed for the like public purposes, and shall sign and associate themselves in an association in which shall be stated the name of the company, the name of the road, the counties through the places from and to which the road is to be constructed, maintained and operated, the length of such road as near as may be, and the name of each county in which any part of the road is or it is made or intended to be made, the amount of the capital stock of the company, which shall not be less than ten thousand dollars for each mile of road constructed or proposed to be constructed, and the number of shares in said capital stock and the amount of each, the name and place of residence of a president, and not over six nor less than three directors of the company who shall manage its affairs for the first year and until others are chosen in their places, each subscriber to such articles of association shall subscribe thereto his name, place of residence and the number of shares of stock he desires to take in said company, in compliance with the provisions of the second section of this act, which articles of association shall be acknowledged by at least three of the persons who have come or competent to take acknowledgment of deeds in the county where principal office is designated to be located, and may be filed in the office of the secretary of the Commonwealth on or before the day they were filed, and record the same in a book to be provided for that purpose, and thereupon the persons the said articles of association shall become and be a body corporate and politic, and may have and use a common seal, and alter the same at pleasure, and may purchase, hold, sell, lease, mortgage, pledge or convey such real estate and personal estate as the purposes of the corporation shall require, not holding more than is necessary for the actis of association.

Sec. 2. That the first board shall subordinate officers and agents as the business of the corpor tion shall require, and shall take such bond as they may deem proper.

Sec. 3. That the by-laws not inconsistent with any existing law for the management of its property and the conduct of its affairs, and for the calling of meetings.

Sec. 4. Such articles of association shall not be filed and recorded in the office of the secretary of State at which we increased the capital stock of the company under the inexorable necessities of war, and it could not be carried down to those figures with greater rapidity than they then advanced. Is this prudent or safe? Could it be accomplished without the most serious disturbance and ruin to the people in financial embarrassments of the most serious character? Every one familiar with the principles of finance or with the financial history of Great Britain from 1810 to 1820, and the United States from 1862 to 1866, must unhesitatingly answer in the negative. In my judgment, would inevitably produce, before the end of the year, a convulsion of a character on the part of the government and the banks, and widely extended derangement throughout the community. In fact, the contraction of the last three months, through its effect on prices, has already produced a shock to business in this and in all other departments of industry. Yet this is but the first half of the period during which the policy of contraction, if it is to be followed out as proposed here as a basis of action to fill up the capital stock of the company in such currency soldiers in clean bright uniforms are in attendance to open and close the doors of the carriages, and the names of the guests are announced by a liveried servant as they enter the receiving parlor. The fulsome praise of newspapers generally, regarding the manner in which public men and their ladies receive is disgusting when bestowed on General and Mrs. Grant, as they are proverbially plain and cordial, without any effort at snobbish elegance, and are free from cold formalities, although they have deservedly won a reputation for placing their guests at ease from the start. There is an apparent air of domesticity about them as they stand together, which at once makes every one feel at home, and the elegant but unpretending manner in which one of the dwelling are in keeping with the unaffected character of the occupants. Every one "likes to go to Grant's," and the General must know by this time that greatness costs not a little in the wear and tear of carpets and furniture, besides loss of rest, sleepless nights and aching shoulders.

THEY SCATTERED.—When the Senate Friday rejected Mr. Sumner's amendment to the tariff bill, proposing to reduce the tariff on bituminous coal to fifty cents per ton, there was a general scattering of the male spectators in the galleries. It turned out that about two hundred Nova Scotia and New England coal-boatmen had come to Washington, expecting that Mr. Sumner's amendment would be adopted, but the decided vote against the proposed reduction of duty struck consternation into the ranks of the lobbyists, and they cleared out.

The *Tribune* very properly says: The Pacific Railroad has been generously—yes, munificently—endowed by the United States. One of the principal conditions of such endowment was the exclusive use of American iron in constructing it. As we understand the doings of the Senate last night, the company is now seeking an escape from this condition, intending to use British iron hereafter. We trust the House will emphatically veto this evasion.

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he Way General and Mrs. Grant Receive.

A Washington letter describes General and Mrs. Grant at the receptions as follows:

Just at this time the levees of General Grant and Speaker Colfax rival those of the President in the general estimation of the fashionable public. General Grant's first public reception was worse and more without extravagance of expression, the most successful entertainment of the kind attempted in this city for many years. He had issued cards, and although a few attended who were not invited, the assemblage evinced a greater number of truly distinguished people and more elegance of dress and refinement of manners than it has ever been my fortune to witness. The reception at the same place night before last was a repetition of the first, except that the number in attendance was larger. Both were colossal ovations to the nation's idol, and overwhelming expressions of the love held by us all for the leader of our victorious armies. At these levees two orderly soldiers in clean bright uniforms are in attendance to open and close the doors of the carriages, and the names of the guests are announced by a liveried servant as they enter the receiving parlor. The fulsome praise of newspapers generally, regarding the manner in which public men and their ladies receive is disgusting when bestowed on General and Mrs. Grant, as they are proverbially plain and cordial, without any effort at snobbish elegance, and are free from cold formalities, although they have deservedly won a reputation for placing their guests at ease from the start. There is an apparent air of domesticity about them as they stand together, which at once makes every one feel at home, and the elegant but unpretending manner in which one of the dwelling are in keeping with the unaffected character of the occupants. Every one "likes to go to Grant's," and the General must know by this time that greatness costs not a little in the wear and tear of carpets and furniture, besides loss of rest, sleepless nights and aching shoulders.

THE KENTUCKY legislators are probably much like other people, after all, though they do claim very high degrees of public spirit, and disinterested patriotism. They have shown some of the common infirmity, with regard to emoluments, in proposing to have their *per diem* allowance paid in gold. This is, we presume, not to be taken as any exaggeration of the general degeneracy of the country, but simply as an indirect method of raising their own salary. We have no right to object, not being citizens of the State, but as members of the great family of mankind, we may lawfully object to Kentuckians raising their pretensions much above the rest of the race, when they have the same ideas of the filthy lucre that others have.

COLLECTOR AT PHILADELPHIA.—Mr. WILLIAM HARRISON, who has been appointed to succeed ex-Gov. JOHNSTON, as Collector of the port of Philadelphia, has been for nearly a score of years connected with the Custom House, and is consequently familiar with the duties of the position. He is, and always has been, an out-and-out Democrat.

THE MISSION TO ROME.

The Pittsburg *Catholic* doubts the report that the American chapel has been banished from Rome by the Pope. Did the editor read the current intelligence of the day, especially the proceedings of Congress, he could not doubt the correctness of the report. In the House of Representatives on Friday, Mr. Thomas Williams of Pennsylvania moved to take from the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill the item providing for the salary of our Minister at Rome; and Mr. Stevens moved to add, as a reason for so doing, a protest against the recent attack upon the right of the people to worship God according to the dictates of their consciences by American Protestants. The amendment of Mr. Stevens was negatived by a vote of sixty-five to thirty-two, not because it was deemed unnecessary to assign that or any other reason for acting on this subject, the New York *Tribune* says:

"We most earnestly hope that the appropriation may not be made, and that the Mission may be promptly and forever discontinued. If we rejoice that the preamble was stricken out, for the reason therein assigned, though cogent, does not cover the whole ground. Rome is a classical capital, and our Government has properly no more right to interfere with ecclesiastical affairs. The Italian people desire to be one nation, with Rome for its capital; and Rome, by a vast majority of its people, desires to be that capital. The Papal Government exists there in defiance of the people of Rome, and has well as long as it has been upheld by threats of foreign intervention. Our keeping a minister at Rome tends to uphold the despotic Papal power; wherefore, we insist that our Minister shall be withdrawn. Certain of our people recognize the Bishop of Rome as their spiritual head on earth—which is their own affair, with which our Government has simply nothing to do. The rule of that Bishop over one million or so of Italian people, in defiance of their notorious wishes, is a very different matter, and ought not to be countenanced by this nor by any other Republic. Let us render unto Cesar the things that are Cesar's, and not ruin our theology with our politics."

THE United States Supreme Court has decided that a license under the revenue laws to carry on lotteries, or sell liquor, does not confer the right to carry on such business in any State where it is prohibited by local laws. The Court were agreed in their opinion, among whom are the following as follows: The prohibition of any business by the State does not conflict with the right of the Government to tax such business where being carried on, nor does the license under the act of 1861 give the licensee authority to violate the laws of a State by engaging therein in a business rendered unlawful by statute.

THE SESSION.—There are only twenty-seven working days left the present Congress, and any bill about which there exists any doubt as to its receiving the President's signature must be passed before the 23d of February or be defeated by constitutional limit, in case the President will not sign. Several very important bills are yet to be acted upon, among which are the Tariff, Internal Revenue and Civil Tenure of Office Bills, and several of the principal appropriation bills. In order to get these definitely settled, it will be necessary for the House to commence its regular night sessions next week.

LONGEVITY IN ENGLAND.—The London *Times* says that in the obituary column, January 9th, the deaths of seven women were recorded, whose united ages amounted to 612 years, and if to this number be added that of another whose death was published the preceding day at 103 years of age, it makes a total of 714 years, giving an average of exactly 80 years and 2 months to each, January 10—The deaths of twelve persons were printed—three women and nine men—whose united ages amounted to 1,030 years, giving an average of 85 years and 10 months to each. The oldest woman was 92, and the youngest 80 years of age; and of the opposite sex, one had reached 91, and the youngest 81 years of age.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, January 31, 1867.

SENATE.

Mr. RAMSEY, from the Postoffice Committee, reported favorably the bill to legalize a bridge across the Missouri river, at St. Charles, Missouri; also, the bill to authorize the construction of a submerged tubular bridge across the Mississippi at St. Louis; also the bill amendatory of the postal laws.

On motion of Mr. SUMNER, a resolution was adopted calling on the President for any correspondence between the State Department and Foreign Ministers on the policy of the administration towards the rebellious States, and of any inquiries based on the conversations reported to the State Department.

Mr. RAMSEY introduced the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior is respectfully requested to report to the Senate the condition of the Indians now located in the vicinity of Lake Travers, from Wadsworth, Dacotah Territory, at the time of the outbreak in Minnesota in 1862; the part they took in connection with the outbreak; the cause of their remaining on the Minnesota frontier when the others surrendered, and the Sioux were sent to the Crow Creek Reservation in 1863; whether they have been friendly in their relations with the whites since the outbreak or otherwise; whether they have any reservation allowed them, and whether they have been the recipients from the United States Government since the outbreak of any inducements, such as clothing, provisions or agricultural implements, and whether their removal from their present location to a point more remote from the Minnesota frontier is contemplated by the Indian Department.

On motion of Mr. PATTERSON, the Committee of Claims were instructed to inquire into the expediency of compensating the loyal citizens of East Tennessee for war losses in accordance with recommendation of the Commission appointed by Gen Burnside.

On motion of Mr. CONNESS, the Secretary of the Treasury was asked as to the advisability of a reciprocity treaty with the Sandwich Islands.

Some debate occurred on Mr. SUMNER'S resolution of yesterday asked as to the advisability of a copy of the affidavit annexed thereto being furnished to the Senate, which was objected by the Secretary of State as he or his deputy shall be allowed to withhold any paper on file in the office of the facts therein said.

Sec. 5. A copy of said articles of association and affidavit are filed and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, and a certificate thereof, under the seal of said office, shall be given to the said corporation, which certificate shall be recorded with the articles of association as aforesaid.

Sec. 6. A copy of any article of association filed and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, and of such a copy of the affidavit aforesaid indorsed thereon, certified by the Secretary of State or by his deputy, shall be evidence of the facts therein stated in all courts of the Commonwealth.

Sec. 7. That the supplies of association and affidavit are filed and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, and a certificate thereof given, the persons named in said articles of association, their successors and assigns, shall be a body corporate and politic, by the name mentioned in the articles of association, and by that name be capable in law to carry in effect the objects named therein as fully as any corporation heretofore created by any act or acts of the Legislature, and said corporation thus created shall be entitled to have and use all the powers and privileges and be subject to all the restrictions and liabilities set forth in the act entitled "An act relating to railroad corporations," passed the nineteenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, and the several supplements thereto, so far as the same are not inconsistent with the special provisions contained in said charter.

Sec. 8. That the persons who shall hereinbefore incorporated, or created and incorporated under the provisions of this act, and their successors, and all others thereof, require an increased amount of capital stock, may from time to time increase the same by the stockholders, file with the Secretary of the Commonwealth a certificate of the amount of such desired increase, and thereafter such company shall be entitled to such increased capital stock, fixed by said certificate.

Sec. 9. That the duties of managers if any company incorporated in pursuance of this act shall be a President, and such other officers as the by-laws and regulations shall be fixed by the c rporators thereof at their first meeting to choose directors of said company.

Sec. 10. The directors of any railroad company heretofore incorporated, or which may hereafter be incorporated in pursuance of this act shall be a President, and such other officers as the by-laws and regulations shall be fixed by the c rporators thereof at their first meeting to choose directors of said company.

Sec. 11. That any company incorporated under this act shall have authority to construct such branches from its main line as may be necessary to accommodate the trade and travel of the State.

Sec. 12. All acts heretofore passed inconsistent with the provisions of this act are declared to be null and void.

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